

Oct 16

The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW, MERCANTILE JOURNAL,

AND

RECORD OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES, BANKS, RAILWAYS, MINES, SHIPPING, &c.

VOL. IX. No. 444.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1858.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED... SIXPENCE.
Stamped..... Sixpence.

LONDON and NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—Tours to the Lakes of Killarney, North Wales, Cork, &c. TICKETS, available for one month, from the principal stations. Fares from Euston station, 10s. first, and 10s. second class.

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LONDON and NORTH-WESTERN and MIDLAND RAILWAYS.—TRAINS leave the Euston station DAILY for the MIDLAND, and thence to the NORTH-EASTERN DISTRICTS, at 6.15 A.M., 6.30 A.M., 9.15 A.M., 11.45 A.M., 2.45 P.M., 5.15 P.M., and 8.45 P.M. Ordinary first and second class farcs by all trains. For particulars see Time Bills.

By order.

General Manager's office, Euston Station, August 16, 1858.

LONDON and NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—CHEAP EXCURSION from LONDON to RUDDESDFIELD, MANCHESTER, and LIVERPOOL, on SATURDAY, Sept. 18, returning Wednesday, Sept. 22.

DOWN TRAIN, Sept. 18.

a.m. RETURN TRAIN, Sept. 22.

London (Station)	depart 9.30	arrive	depart 9.30	arrive
Batley			9.30	
Dewsbury		9.35		
Huddersfield		9.35		
Warrington	3.20			
Liverpool	4.15			
Stockport	5.30			
Manchester	5.40			
Stalybridge	5.45			
Greenfield	5.45			
Marsden	6.0			
Huddersfield	6.15			
Dewsbury	6.30			
Batley	6.30			
London (Station)	5.0	don (Station) about	3.45	

TICKETS FOR THE DOUBLE JOURNEY.

Covered Carriages First Class.
To Liverpool 11s. 22s.
To Manchester and other stations 10s. 20s.

The tickets are not transferable, and are only available by the above trains.

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By order.

Euston Station, Sept. 9, 1858.

MARINE BRANCH.

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By the advice of several Merchants and Insurance Brokers, the Company have OPENED a BRANCH of GENERAL MARINE ASSURANCE. They offer every advantage now existent in similar Companies. Their rates are regulated by those long established, and their whole attention is paid to creating a safe and reciprocally advantageous Marine Insurance.

MAURICE EVANS Secretary.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The GRAND VOCAL and INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT of the Season, for the benefit of Mr. Manns, Musical Director at the Crystal Palace, SATURDAY next, October 2nd. The following Artists, amongst others, will appear:—Miss Louis Vining, Madame Poma, Miss Arbuthnott, Miss Mahalia Homer, and Miss Laura Baxter; Mr. George Peppen, Mr. Charles Graham, Mr. Monten Smith, Mr. Saundley, Mr. Winn, and Herr de Fontenay. Solo Instrumentalists: Mr. Molique, Mr. Remenyi, and Mr. Svendsen.

The Orpheus Glee Union, and an efficient Chorus from the Royal Italian Opera, under the direction of Mr. Smythson.

Conductor—Mr. AUGUSTUS MANNS.

Doors open at 10. Concert at 2.30.

Admission, One Shilling, or by Season Tickets; Reserved Seats, Half-a-Crown extra, which should be at once applied for at the Crystal Palace, or at 2, Exeter Hall, where plans of seats may be seen.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—PICTURE GALLERY.—The Great Picture by James Ward, R.A., considered by the most eminent connoisseurs as the rival of the celebrated Paul Potter Bull, and which excited great interest at the Art Treasures Exhibition, Manchester, is now on view in the New Gallery. Above 280 important ancient and modern pictures have lately been added to the collection now formed in the New Gallery within the building.

The Photographic Exhibition, adjoining the Picture Gallery, is now open, and contains several hundred first-class specimens.

Applications for space for the exhibition of sterling works to be addressed to the Secretary.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Mdle. PICCOLOMINI'S FAREWELL to ENGLAND, TUESDAY next, the 23rd September, the day before her sailing for America.

GRAND MISCELLANEOUS CONCERT, comprising an unusual number of the principal features of their repertoire, the following solos being included:—“Ah forse lui” (Traviata), “Vedrai Carino” (Don Giovanni), “Convien partir” (Figlia del Reggimento); the duets with Signor Giungiani, “Il suo del’ arpa Angelica” (I Martiri), and “Se fato in Corpo avete” (Matrimonio), in the finale to Lucia, and also in the Brindisi from La Traviata.

The concert will also be supported by Signor Giungiani, who will sing the favourite Romanza “Spirto Gentil” (La Favolosa), and “Tu m’ami” (When other lips), from Balfe's Opera (Zaira); besides various concerted pieces with Signor Aldighieri, Rossi, and Castelli. Conductors, Signor Arditi and Mr. Manns.

Doors open at Ten. Concert at Three.

Admission, by Season Tickets, or by Day Tickets, if purchased on or before Monday, Half-a-Crown, by payment on the day, Five Shillings. Reserved Seats, Half-a-Crown extra.

Plans of seats at the Crystal Palace, and at the Central Office, 2, Exeter Hall, where, as well as at the usual Agents, tickets may be had. Remittances by cheque, or post-office order, to be payable to Mr. William Henry Dawson.

NOTICE.—Correct Books with entire programme, to be had only in the Palace on the day of the Concert.

Information of Excursion Trains from various parts of the country may be obtained at the Secretary's Office, Crystal Palace.

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Review of the Week.

THE appears to be no loophole by which Lord Derby can hope to escape from the unpleasant task of bringing forward something in the shape of a Reform Bill. It is generally believed, in fact, that he has accepted the ugly necessity and set to work to make the best of a bad bargain. One very significant sign of activity we have in the case with which certain important preparations for a hard struggle are being made by the leaders of the Conservative party, as we must, for the present at least, continue to call them for convenience' sake. It is said that the registration courts are being "worked" by them with the closest attention to the state of the voting lists, with an eye to the possibility of a general election. Concurrent with the intelligence which reaches us on this subject, we have other intelligence, to the effect that the Liberals are hardly yet sufficiently awake to the importance of this move to make up differences, and systematically to meet it and neutralise its effect by the counter-move which is ready to their hands. But whatever the remissness of those to whom the country naturally looks as the leaders of the present, as they have been of past, Reform movements, the country, as we have shown in another place, will not be content to have the question of Reform played fast and loose with by either Liberals or Conservatives, but will demand a measure worthy to represent the great changes that have taken place in the moral and material condition of the country since the passing of the Reform Bill of 1832. At present we have no intimation of the scope of the forthcoming Government measure; but, as we have said, it *must* be thoroughly comprehensive and worthy of the conditions under which it has been called for to find acceptance from the people.

Mr. Newdegate, at Coventry, on Monday, was at considerable pains to assure the licensed victuallers of that ancient city that there were no reasons why Conservatives should not be the representatives of progressive policy. "When others tell you," he said, "that a Conservative has no right to speak of progress, pay no attention to them." And he said further, that he desired to see all classes of the community advance, his sentiments being those which at the present moment appear to animate the breasts of all the foremost men of his party. The difficulty which appears to stand in the way of a general acceptance of these new professions of faith on the part of such representative men as Mr. Newdegate is, that they will not admit that they are making any new profession of faith at all. On the contrary, they insist that they have always been of the same way of thinking—as became Conservatives—without giving in any explanation as to the contradiction which, to unconservative minds, has appeared between their love of progress and their practical opposition to it at every step taken during the quarter of a century since—after they had twice defeated the Reform Bill—that measure was wrested from their strangling clutch by main force. The only limits which the new progressionists, speaking by the lips of Mr. Newdegate, put to their aspirations for popular advancement are "the principles which constitute *safety*;" but it is precisely at the definition of that word that Conservatism has stuck, and remained a pernicious obstruction in the path of "progress" hitherto. If, however, Conservatism can now give a sufficiently liberal meaning to it, the country will willingly be helped forward by Mr. Newdegate, and will accept a Reform Bill from his chief.

But the fact is, that the only danger which is ever likely to menace the constitution is the pestiferous opposition of the Conservatives of the Upper House to the progress for which the country, on various questions, has long evinced its readiness.

Sir John Treawny, at Tavistock, on Tuesday last, pointed to a fact which is growing up into a dangerous abuse, and this is the warning moral he draws from it: the Lords consider themselves too high and mighty for the consideration of public questions; and he thinks it will be a question whether three persons shall be allowed to make a House of Lords, while in the Commons forty persons are required to make a House, "for I don't think," he says, "men ought to be allowed to vote from a mere cursory view of the subject, without having mastered the evidence. It is in the power of members who may be absent in different countries to place their proxies in the hands of any given member who happens to have prejudged the question, and for the future the House of Lords must take care that if it runs counter to public questions year after year, dangerous questions may arise, some of which may be considered to be fatal to the British Constitution."

Other public events of the week, however, will attract more general attention than those which are merely political. Decidedly the most interesting of these has been the inauguration of the Newton statue at Grantham, on Tuesday, and it will be memorable as much from the circumstances by which it was attended as on its own account. After the lapse of one hundred and thirty-one years, from the time of Newton's death, a statue has been erected in the town in which the greatest original thinker which the world has yet seen in science received the rudiments of his school education. Upon the uncovering of this memorial, Lord Brougham delivered such an address as perhaps no other man now living could have pronounced. The fame of Newton can neither be augmented nor diminished by anything which anybody could say on an occasion like that of Tuesday; but there is room to question whether anybody better than Lord Brougham could set forth his greatness and the abundant reasons which England and the whole world have to honour and revere his memory.

How the great masters of science deserve to be honoured and revered was more generally illustrated by Professor Owen in his inaugural address at the opening of the twenty-eighth session of the British Association at Leeds on Wednesday evening. Most able and impressive was the call which he made for State protection and assistance for the labourers in pure science, and noble was the array of services already rendered by them to the world he set forth in support of their claims. By a far-seeing Minister, he truly said, "the man of science will be regarded with a favourable eye, not less for the unlooked-for streams of wealth that have already flowed, but for those that may in future arise, out of the applications of the abstract truths to the discovery of which he devotes himself." Of the future of one branch of science, Professor Owen draws a grand picture, and every day we see it growing into the shape he describes. "It is impossible to foresee," he says, "to what extent chemistry may not ultimately, in the production of things needful, supersede the present vital agencies of nature, by laying under contribution the accumulated forces of past ages, which would thus enable us to obtain in a small manufactory, and in a few days, effects which can be realised from the present natural agencies only when they are exerted upon vast areas of land and through considerable periods of time." Such are the aspirations and the uses of pure science, worthily fostered by the British Association.

In another field of experimental labour we have had the Marchioness of Londonderry giving an account of her labours. It is her Ladyship's wont once a year to assemble the tenants and work-people on her Irish estates at a dinner, and on those occasions she performs what she takes to be her duty as a landlord—namely, to read her guests a lecture upon their habits and conduct during the past year. This year the lecture is a little sharp, for her Ladyship has been disappointed of certain results for which she looked—she had instituted prizes for gardens, and she has been "obliged to give up the flower show;" her tenants, she thinks,

might have done more to improve their cottages, and might have exhibited more signs of thrift and frugality. Lady Londonderry, without doubt, is actuated by the very best intentions, but it is not quite clear that she has the right to be "disappointed" in the shortcomings of her cottiers and labourers—the standard she judges them by may be altogether inapplicable, under the circumstances of their condition; at all events, the sharp lecture on thriftiness and abstemiousness never did and never will come well from those who, like her Ladyship, are exalted above the necessity of ever practising those virtues which the poor man is compelled in some way or another to practise every day of his. In truth, there is nothing for Lady Londonderry to be "disappointed" at in the failure of her little plan of social reform; much greater schemes of a like kind have failed, and yet—as even her Ladyship admits—the "progress" made within the last few years has been wonderful.

We have the amplest proof in the statistics of the country, social and commercial. From the disasters of the last and preceding year we are recovering so rapidly, that, from the accumulation of our national stock of capital, we are in some danger of bringing about a reaction by plunging too hastily into business for the purpose of employing our idle money. The Bank of England coffers are overflowing, and it is the same with those of the Bank of France, and the danger is alike in both countries. It is a danger, however, brought about by an excess of that blessing which few will regret to witness—abundance of stored money.

Among other new schemes which may find their way into the money-market, is one of peculiar interest. The Great Eastern Steam Navigation Company are looking about for means of finishing their vessel and getting her to sea, or of getting her off their hands altogether. They propose to form a new company, and to raise sufficient new capital for their purpose under the Limited Liability Act. The original shareholders are to have the first offer of the new shares, and in the event of their declining to take them up, then the shares are to be offered in the London market. With regard to the Atlantic Telegraph, nothing has been decided upon, and the only progress that has been made towards a solution of the difficulty has been the examination of the cable by Mr. Varley, the electrician to the International Telegraph Company, who has discovered that the present conducting wire is much too thin for the work which the cable was designed to accomplish. The flaw, which has led to a partial, if not fatal, stoppage of electrical communication, is, according to his discovery, somewhere between 250 and 300 miles from Valentia.

One of the most stirring pieces of the week's news came to the public by the unusual way of private correspondence in the *Times*; it was, that the convicts at Portland, 1500 in number, were within an ace of an outbreak, when they had arranged to murder their guards, to burn down their prison buildings, to plunder the villages in the neighbourhood, and then to escape as they best might. The authorities, put on their guard by one of the convicts, made such arrangements as enabled them to overpower the conspirators at the moment of their rising; but their chance of escape has been a very narrow one. The cause of the threatened *deserte* was some fancied difference in the relative punishment of prisoners convicted under different modifications of the law in 1853 and 1857; men sentenced between those years to "transportation," but kept at home under a commuted sentence, not appearing to enjoy a proportionate remission of their sentence, like other prisoners. The outbreak, however, cannot but be regarded as casting a doubt on that system which Colonel Jebb was lately defending against the competition of a different system under Captain Walter Crofton in Ireland.

Neither the Russian Government nor the Government of Sardinia has vouchsafed any direct information on the subject of Villafranca; but from the Piedmontese official journal we gather that Sardinia has gratuitously given to Russia the use of some old buildings formerly used as a convict establishment; that there is no contract or lease of any kind, and that Russia will have the use of these buildings as a coaling station only so long as it shall be agreeable to Sardinia. We have just received intelligence from Paris to the effect that similar conveniences have been accorded to Russia at a port in the Gulf of Leonto by the Greek Government. The plot thickens.

THE LIVERPOOL BOROUGH BANK.

Nisi Prius Court, before Mr. Baron Martin, Thursday, August 26.

SCOTT AND ANOTHER v. DIXON.

Mr. James, Q.C., Mr. Wilde, Q.C., and Mr. Brown were counsel for the plaintiffs; Sir Fitzroy Kelly (the Attorney-General), Mr. Atherton, Q.C., and Mr. Melhuish appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Brown opened the pleadings. He said John Scott and Robert Robinson were the plaintiffs, and Joshua Dixon was the defendant. The declaration stated that the defendant was a director of a banking company, and that the shares of the company were transferable; that the defendant, intending to deceive the plaintiffs, fraudulently represented that there were profits of the company to be divided amongst the shareholders, and fraudulently printed and published a report, whereby he represented that the financial condition of the bank was sound, and that the shares were then of great value, whereby the plaintiffs were induced to purchase shares; that there were no profits to be divided among the shareholders; and that the financial condition of the said company was not sound, whereby the plaintiffs lost the value of their shares and were forced to contribute towards the losses of the company. To that the defendant had pleaded, first, "not guilty"; and, secondly, that the plaintiffs were not so induced. Upon these counts issue had been joined.

Mr. James, Q.C., in opening the case, said the plaintiff sued for the value of ten shares purchased by the plaintiffs last August, together with the further sums paid upon them, 5*l.* a share, a call made subsequently to the failure of the bank, amounting altogether to 142*7s. 6d.* The bank was established in 1837 upon the remains of that belonging to Messrs. Hope and Co. There was a deed of arrangement vesting the management in directors, who were to keep books, &c., and "make out and declare a full, true, and explicit balance-sheet" half-yearly. At the general meeting in July such balance-sheet and report were to be exhibited, including all items the directors deemed expedient for the interests of the company to be made public; and every report was to be binding upon the proprietors, unless some error should be discovered before the next subsequent report, and therein rectified. Dividends were to be declared out of clear profits after deductions for bad and doubtful debts, and for providing a reserved surplus fund. If that and one-fourth of the paid-up capital were exhausted by losses, a meeting was to be called and the facts made known; and upon the application of any two proprietors the company might be dissolved. The defendant (said the learned counsel) is a gentleman, I believe, of high position in the commercial circles of this town, and some few years ago he came to Liverpool from New Orleans, where he had, by the experience of several years—I don't know how many—acquired what is supposed to be an intimate acquaintance with banking transactions. He had been a banker at New Orleans, and soon probably after his arrival here the firm with which he was connected—I presume a commercial firm—having an account with the Borough Bank, and he thinking that with the experience which he had acquired he probably might be enabled to benefit himself as well as others—I give him credit for that intention—thought it was not undesirable on his part to become a shareholder and director in the Borough Bank; and he accordingly examined well the published reports of the directors from time to time as they had been issued, and, making up his mind on the expediency of joining that company, he purchased shares solely that he might, according to his own words, become a director; and a director accordingly he did become, somewhere about three years ago. At the time when he joined the bank the affairs were not conducted exactly in the manner provided for by the deed to which I have invited your attention. It provides for the management being vested in the directors. The directors consisted for the most part of gentlemen of eminence and standing in the town, high in the mercantile world, and they delegated their powers to three gentlemen who were elected from their body and called "managing directors." These managing directors likewise appointed another person, called "the manager." So that probably it will turn out that, in the great multiplicity of instances for years gone by, previous to the summer of last year, the manager directed the managing directors, and the managing directors ruled the directors. That will probably be the state of things. All that the directors contributed to the concern was the sanction of their high names and the lustre which could be shed about the bank by their undoubted respectability. Directors they were in name, but in name only—*lucus a non lucendo.* They directed because they had nothing to direct. There were accounts weekly or fortnightly placed before them, which informed them, as I believe, of little or nothing that was transpiring. They trusted to the managing directors, and it is not at all unlikely that the managing directors trusted too much to the manager himself. There can be very little doubt—as I think you will see—that Mr. Dixon, with the experience that he had acquired in banking in New Orleans and with the expectation he had formed of

having some part and parcel in the management and direction of this bank, when he became a director was not satisfied with the state of affairs, nor with the course which matters were pursuing; and I believe that from time to time he did utter certain murmurings of discontent, but that he never took any active step to set matters right which he suspected, and suspected for some time, were going wrong. So matters went on until June of last year, when Mr. Dixon, the defendant, having been informed that Mr. Smith, who had been a manager for some years up to that time, was desirous of retiring, and was about to retire, was asked whether he would become a managing director, thereby of course having the opportunity of investigating and sifting the affairs of the bank and thoroughly informing himself, if he was so minded, of what its true position and circumstances were. He acceded to the request. That was in the beginning of June, and at the time he was in London. He returned immediately to Liverpool, and he set himself to work at once for the purpose of ascertaining the true position of things; and I must say that I will give him credit—for I believe it is believed generally of him—that if he had pursued the dictates of his own heart, and if he had attended to the warnings of his own conscience and common sense, and had steadfastly pursued the course which unquestionably he did mark out for himself in the beginning, this case would not have been brought before you, because, probably, if not a thoroughly accurate statement of the affairs of the bank, yet at all events one showing that the state of the concern was utterly insolvent, would have been put forth; my clients would then never have become purchasers of shares, and would consequently never have had a right of action against Mr. Dixon. It appears that he did investigate. Mr. Smith, who still was the manager of the bank, laid before him, anxiously inquiring, as he was, whether there ought or ought not to be a dividend then declared—you may judge when he investigated that question that he had his own serious doubts whether there ought to be a dividend—Mr. Smith laid before him a statement. That statement, the learned counsel expected, would be produced by the other side. It satisfied Mr. Dixon no dividend ought to be declared, but he was overruled. A report founded upon it was furnished to the directors, and sent to a printer, when it was withdrawn and another substituted, upon which this action was founded. The plaintiffs, who were warehousemen, studied this report, and, though the reduction of the dividend brought down the shares, they thought the report disclosed a state of things which would justify them in investing their money in shares, which they did. The report was addressed to the 21st annual meeting of the proprietors, on the 28th July, 1857. It represented the existing capital at 1,000,000*l.*, that the net profits of the past year, after deducting expenses and 45,825*l.* for bad debts, amounted to 69,318*l.*, to be appropriated as dividend, leaving 7439*l.* to be added to the reserve fund, which would make it 109,000*l.* Nearly the whole of the 45,000*l.* lost was attributed to the frauds of a customer to whom the bank had lent it carelessly. The directors continued in the report to say, "In winding up the affairs of 1854—a year which it is well known was most disastrous to those customers of the bank who were engaged in the colonial shipping trade—heavier loss has been sustained in the realisation of the assets"—he prayed their attention to this—"in the realisation of the assets then taken over by way of security, and in the liquidation of estates then considered good, than could possibly have been anticipated." What is the effect of that? It is this: that they had actually realised the assets at that time, and that the estates actually had been, and then were, liquidated, and that there had been a loss in such realisation and liquidation—a loss then ascertained, because the assets had been realised and the estates liquidated. "The directors have thought it their duty at one to reduce the dividend to the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, on the grounds that, taking even the most favourable view of the liquidation of these accounts, the whole of the reserve fund will be required to meet the losses incurred." The losses ascertained, after the realisation of the assets and the liquidation of the estates, will amount to so much. They will require something more to place the bank clear, and that will be met by the reserve fund, 108,000*l.* or 109,000*l.* "The whole of the reserve fund will be required to meet the losses incurred." Nothing more; not a word about the capital being required, but only that the whole of the reserve fund will be required, clearly intimating that that will place them clear in their accounts. They go on—"And that, on the other hand, taking the most unfavourable view consistent with probability, the good current business of the bank will, in their opinion, be sufficient to admit of the regular time of the dividend without encroaching on the capital at the same period of the coming year." Under the most unfavourable circumstances consistent with probability, the good current business of the bank will enable them at the same period of the next year—in the month of July, 1858—to divide 5 per cent. without encroaching upon the capital. Not one word said about the capital but that. What is the meaning of it? Here is the capital intact, and the good business of the bank is such that the annual profits, after paying all expenses

—the losses of 1854 being all liquidated and counted off—the good, genuine business of the bank will enable the directors to pay 5 per cent. per annum without encroaching one iota upon the capital. "In laying this statement before the shareholders, the directors desire strongly to impress upon them that its unsatisfactory character"—for it had been 7 per cent. before then—"is to be attributed to the affairs of 1854, and that apart from these the sound and legitimate business of the bank would have enabled it to pay the ordinary dividends, and also to add largely to the reserve fund, notwithstanding the losses that have been incurred subsequently to that year. They wish also to state their confident expectation that the changes they are making in the policy and regulations of the bank will effectually guard against the recurrence of similar results." This was a misrepresentation, and the defendant knew it, and if he did not know it he was equally responsible; and if it was to be said he was ignorant, it must be retorted that he ought not to have been. But after the stoppage of the bank on the 26th October, Mr. Dixon became chairman of the liquidators, and Messrs. Banner, accountants, prepared a statement of the affairs of the bank, which was produced at a meeting at which Mr. Dixon presided, when he said that the position of the directors was one of very great discredit; that at the time of the great loss through Mr. Doherty, in 1856-7, he placed on the books a record of his opinion that the nature of the transaction by which the loss was incurred was unbusiness-like, and ought not to have been incurred; that the managing directors were as blameable as the manager; that immediately on becoming a managing director himself, he inquired into the condition of the bank, as to the declaration or non-declaration of a dividend; that Mr. Smith's statement led him to the conclusion that none ought to be declared; that this was assented to at a meeting of the directors, but at a meeting afterwards, suddenly convened, the decision was reversed. That was the statement upon which the report, afterwards withdrawn, was founded. At the meeting, Mr. Woodward, one of the members, asked if the report was withdrawn by the whole board or by a part only, and Mr. Dixon replied, "By the board, and to which I yielded, the motive being"—his motive or the motive of the board, no matter which—"the motive being that it was very dangerous in the then position of the bank to run the risk of the excitement that might be produced by the non-declaration of a dividend. It might have resulted in a run and the stoppage of the bank." Not of the effect that would have been produced upon the shareholders, but of the effect upon the public, the customers of the bank, the moment it became known abroad, as it inevitably would have been, by a published report—a run upon the bank, its stoppage and ruin, they thought. "I acceded to it only on the understanding recorded in the minutes, that the statement to the shareholders should contain a full and correct disclosure of the position of the bank, even though it should disclose the fact"—he prayed attention to this—"that a dividend was declared out of capital." In the report issued there was no shadow of such an intimation; there was no reference to the dividend, except in the passage read; and yet Mr. Dixon said the report, "well examined, shows the fact, although I do feel that it does not make the statement in the broad terms that would have been adopted if the intention had been to state that there was a very handsome surplus." He added that during July he was the only managing director present; that in that month he came to the resolution to join the rest of the directors in the conclusion that it was highly improper to declare a dividend. When the accounts were published, the liabilities were far beyond the assets, calls had to be made, and the whole thing was a complete mass of ruin and desolation; and it could not be said that the capital had been lost since July. Mr. Banner's first report of the 12th November, said that 871,000*l.* had been written off and lost between June 1854 and June 1857; but in the report presented on the 17th February this year, Mr. Banner made a statement totally at variance with this; viz., that from scarcely any of the accounts which had been current upon the accounts of the bank for some years had amounts been written off. "But before the directors' report in July last an estimate was made of possible losses, amounting in the aggregate to 370,000*l.*" Therefore there can be no doubt that this was the loss of 370,000*l.* referred to in Mr. Smith's report to Mr. Dixon in the month of June, and aversed by Mr. Banner, who had examined the books on the 12th November, to have been written off before June in that year, and afterwards stated not to have been written off altogether. What does that state of things show? That in the month of June, according to the directors' own account, the whole of the reserved fund was swallowed up. To their knowledge, 108,000*l.* was necessary for the losses sustained in the former year, 1854, and the two or three years preceding it. Take that from the admitted loss of 370,000*l.* so written off, and it will leave somewhere about 270,000*l.* of capital actually gone. They were bound by the clause of their deed, upon ascertaining that all the reserve fund was gone and a quarter of their paid-up capital, to summon their subscribers before them, and take measures for the dissolution of the company. There

was gone at that time far more than a quarter of the capital, because the paid-up capital was 940,000*l.*, and one-fourth of that would be only 235,000*l.* A loss, therefore, of 235,000*l.* out of the paid-up capital would have demanded their interposition for the dissolution of the company. They had, in fact, lost very nearly 300,000*l.*, besides the reserve fund. The learned counsel concluded—I shall show you, beyond all question, that the plaintiffs did actually receive these reports, and acted upon them alone; that they are not, as perhaps may be contended on the other side, intended solely for the inspection of the proprietors, but that they have always been considered and acted upon in the open market as furnished for the guidance of the public; and the next question is, are the misrepresentations clear, and are they such as to impose a liability upon the defendant? I believe when I have laid before you proofs of the facts to which I have invited your attention,—you will see, beyond all question, that the plaintiffs'—poor men, who have invested their all, probably, or nearly so, in the purchase of shares in that bank, and whose whole income, however great it may be, is liable for these debts of the bank—are entitled in justice, in law, and in good sense, to call upon Mr. Dixon to recompense them for the loss which they have sustained. Documents having been put in, Mr. John Scott, one of the plaintiffs, was examined. He and the other plaintiff, Mr. Robert Robinson, obtained the bank report of the 28th of July from Mr. Byrne, of the firm of Brodie and Byrne, sharebrokers; and Mr. Byrne subsequently bought the shares for them. He would have risked his life in a concern bearing the names the report did; they understood from the report that the capital would not be interfered with, and they would get their 7 per cent. dividend.—Mr. Robinson was also called. He and Mr. Scott considered the language of the report in a common-sense view, and thought they understood it, and that upon the whole their investment was a satisfactory one.—Mr. G. A. Tunley, sharebroker, proved that copies of the report were to be obtained at the bank, and that they affected the price of the shares. Immediately after the issue of the report in question, the price of the shares fell from 10*l.* to 9*l.*, and not long afterwards to 8*l.*—This closed the plaintiffs' case.

The Attorney-General took the opinion of the judge as to whether there was any proof of false and fraudulent misrepresentation.—After perusing the report, his Lordship said he could not say there was no evidence.

The Attorney-General then proceeded to address the jury on the merits of the case. The defendant, Mr. Dixon, was, as probably some of the jury knew, a member of the firm of Messrs. Isaac Lowe and Co., a gentleman who had for a long time now carried on business as a merchant in Liverpool; and the learned counsel thought he might with confidence and safety say of him, before the jury, that down to that moment his character for honour, integrity, and truth was without a stain, and above suspicion. He now, however, found himself called upon to answer, in a court of justice and before a jury of his country, to a charge of fraud and falsehood. Feeling himself blameless, feeling himself quite incapable of the serious misconduct imputed to him, he had felt it his duty to come before the jury, and through him (the learned counsel) to state to them that the entire case should be laid before them without reserve, without disguise. They should judge in the result not whether he might or might not have been mistaken upon a point or upon points upon which any man might well err, but whether he had been guilty of fraud and falsehood—whether the charge upon the record was established, that he had fraudulently and falsely, from a fraudulent motive, deceived the plaintiff, wronged and injured him, and so been guilty of that which rendered him amenable to the law in this action. The learned counsel must join issue with his learned friend at the outset upon the law in this case. In order to maintain this action the plaintiffs must prove, to their entire satisfaction, not that the defendant had erred, that he had himself been deceived, that he had made, a *l.* also and over-sanguine estimate of the state of the banking business or of the amount of its debts or of its liabilities; but they must establish before the jury that the defendant had been guilty of a moral and criminal fraud—that he had defrauded his neighbour by falsehood and by misrepresentation. The learned counsel complained that no witness conversant with the affairs of the bank had been called. Perhaps every director ought to make himself acquainted with the business of a bank. It might be generally desirable that all banking establishments should be conducted on that principle, that an intimate and accurate knowledge of all the affairs and the accounts of the bank should not be confined either to a manager or a managing committee, but should be clearly, simply, and accurately known to every director who sat at the board of such an institution. But though that might be extremely desirable, he was sure they would not be guilty of the injustice of visiting what would be a great and lasting punishment on one who had been guilty of no offence—one who simply went, and finding things on a totally different principle, was unable within the time allotted to him to obtain that information which no doubt he thought it was desirable that every director should possess. Something might be said on the other side, because many had

transactions with banks, who, though they might be content to allow their accounts, in which there were transactions of delicacy, and which they desired to be kept secret, to be known only to one or two. The manager and managing committee might not like that their private and important concerns should be known to every director. Here there were some twelve directors engaged in various occupations; for though they were directors of the bank they were also engaged in business, perhaps rivals in business, and there might be reasons why the bank should not make those transactions known to all the directors. That would be found to be the case with this very bank. It was a long time before Mr. Dixon felt that there was the least hope of his establishing a better system than that which existed, which had been described in reports in 1837 and 1838, and confirmed by the proprietors. He was a party, of course, to the annual reports made in 1855, 1856, and 1857, and down to the last and latest of these periods he had no more means of obtaining knowledge of what might be the course of this bank—he had no more means of ascertaining whether the bad debts of the bank which ought to have been written off and set aside as bad and desperate, or the extent to which any given amount of debts was bad or doubtful—he had no more means of ascertaining than any one of the jury had the means of ascertaining it before he came to the jury box on the trial of the case. It was on the very principle not only on which the bank was established, but the proprietors permitted and sanctioned its being conducted. Therefore, all he could say was that though they might think a different principle ought to prevail in the management of banks, and that no director ought to do so, and allow his name to be published to the world, giving authenticity to any statement, or holding out to the world anything upon the credit of that name, without making himself beforehand perfectly acquainted with the strict accuracy and truth of all that was stated—although that might be their opinion, and although it might be a very just opinion, he might say that they would not visit even with censure, *fines* with punishment, a gentleman in a banking establishment conducted on this principle who was unable until too late to effect any alteration in the system, and who was ignorant himself, as a director, of all the new transactions of the bank. In May, 1857, he proposed that the affairs of the bank should be known to all the directors; that was assented to, but could not be acted upon, and was not, until it became obvious to Mr. Dixon, then a managing director, that affairs were in a much more unsatisfactory condition than he suspected. How the losses sustained affected the integrity of the capital Mr. Dixon was ignorant down to the time just before the report in question was made, the manager alone being acquainted with the true state of the concern. Mr. Dixon felt it a hardship that he, who alone of the twelve directors had resisted secrecy, should be signalled out for what, if it succeeded, would bring ruin upon the most prosperous and wealthy of the town. After commenting upon the great difficulty of estimating with anything like accuracy the position of such a concern as this bank, the learned counsel said Mr. Dixon applied to Mr. Smith, the manager, who furnished him with a statement which contained all the information Mr. Dixon possessed prior to the publication of this report. That paper showed that 19,500*l.* was to be provided for out of capital, and, adding 25,000*l.* for a dividend of 5 per cent., there was a deficit of 44,000*l.* to be taken out of capital if all the anticipated losses were sustained. If any guarantee was needed of Mr. Dixon's good faith, it was furnished by the fact that he was the holder of 1400 shares, representing 14,000*l.*, of which 5000*l.* was invested in March, April, and May, 1857. If he had known the state of the bank he might, if he chose, have sold out and freed himself from all responsibility; but he had no doubt that the bank was secure. Reckoning the call of 5*l.* a share, Mr. Dixon's loss would be 7000*l.* in addition to the 14,000*l.* invested. The question which he should now submit for the consideration of the jury was not whether it was wise and prudent and just and right to declare this dividend—some of them might probably think, as Mr. Dixon himself thought, that they had better not declare the dividend; but the question was not whether in doing so they were right or wrong, but whether they deceived, misled, published untruths, and fraudulently, and from fraudulent motives, published untruths to the shareholders. How, the Attorney-General asked, was Mr. Dixon to know that which Mr. Bannister only found out after several months' investigation? The report itself was a very unfavourable statement indeed, and as far as it went was strictly true. The learned counsel at some length contended that in agreeing to the dividend the defendant ought not to be charged with fraud because he had not taken the most unfavourable view of the affairs of the bank, and concluded an address, the delivery of which occupied three hours and a quarter, by saying he should put in the statement made by Mr. Dixon in February, 1858; and supported and verified as that would be on oath before them, he trusted it would convince them that the defendant was an unwilling party even to the declaration of the dividend; that in all he did in relation to the affairs of the bank he acted as became a man of honour and integrity, and did his duty to the best of his ability.

He was himself a very large loser; he had perhaps as large a stake in it as even the respected gentleman, Mr. Rathbone, whose name appeared as the chairman, or as any other director in the bank; and under all circumstances he submitted the case to the jury confidently expecting they would come to the conclusion that there was no intention on the part of Mr. Dixon to make a false and fraudulent statement.

Mr. Joshua Dixon detailed the history of his connexion with the bank and the mode of managing business. At a meeting on the 4th of July he contended that to pay dividend out of capital was a logical absurdity, but he agreed to submit to the majority, provided they placed on record a minute, which he drew up as follows:—"A dividend of 2*1/2* per cent. to be declared, it being understood that the statement to the shareholders at the annual meeting is to be a true and correct representation of the position of the bank as far as it goes, whatever it leads up to." A report was prepared to that effect in a different form to what was subsequently published. In the end he waived his objections and concurred in the other report. He believed the statement as to the reserved fund was true, and also that as to 1854, and that the good current business of the bank would enable it to give its regular dividend without encroaching on the capital. There was not (he said), in my opinion, at the time, anything in the report tending to mislead persons conversant with business. I thought that with the average profits a dividend might be paid without touching the capital. I have since ascertained that the profits from June to October were in a greater ratio than that. Beyond the information furnished by Mr. Smith, I then had no information, and could not have had any.

Mr. James did not ask the witness a question.

The Attorney-General, in the course of his summing up, said it was a fallacy to say that either the defendant or any one else had been misled, or had been induced by any inaccuracy, if there were such—by any untruth, if there were such—in this report, to become the purchaser of these shares. If Mr. Smith's statement had been appended to the report issued, it would only have been stating in detail what the report stated in substance. There was therefore no misrepresentation, unless they could suppose, which he was sure they would not, that Mr. Dixon, by some mode of divination, could have anticipated that the bank would fail within three or four months. The real question was whether there was any pretence for charging this gentleman with fraud in having yielded to higher authority, and in having submitted with some degree of deference to those who were older and more experienced than himself, merely so at the form in which this statement should be made, the substance of which truly represented all he had the means of knowing at the time.

Mr. James, in reply, urged that previous good character was no guarantee of the defendant's innocence of that charge; admitted that all the directors were equally in fault with Mr. Dixon, but said that the evidence was more complete against him than against any others; contended that his stake in the bank was a motive for his maintaining its credit; that his latest purchase of shares would do that by inspiring confidence, and that, in making the investment, he was like Antonio, in the "Merchant of Venice," lending more money to Bassanio in order to recover what was already owing.

Mr. Baron Martin, in summing up, said:—Gentlemen of the jury, John Scott and Robert Robinson sue Joshua Dixon, and the ground of complaint is, that he falsely, fraudulently, and deceitfully issued a certain document in order to induce the plaintiffs to believe in the solvency of this bank, and that the plaintiffs, acting upon it, were deceived and sustained a loss, which is represented to-day by 92*l.*, being the price paid for ten shares in the bank, and 50*l.*, being the amount of five calls [a five pound call] made on these shares since that time; so that, if your verdict should be for the plaintiffs, it will be for you to say whether the 142*l.* is the proper measure of the damage which the plaintiffs have sustained. Before I proceed to call your attention to the facts of this case, I think it a matter I ought to observe, that if it be possible to teach the people of this country, and of this town, experience at all, the result of this trial will teach them; and if, after this trial, they will, with their eyes open, deal in banks of this sort, they ought to take the consequences on their own head; for, it appears that this was a bank in which the capital was said to be one million; that is, capital was said to have been subscribed to the extent of one million of money; and by the constitution of this bank and the law, not merely was this million actually supplied for the purposes of this bank, but the parties who had the direction of it had the power of pledging the credit of these persons to the extent of every farthing they possessed in the world. Now, the history of the concern is this,—that one manager and two managing directors had the entire control of it; and, upon the bank becoming insolvent last October, it was found that one of these managing directors was in this condition—that he himself had borrowed 10,000*l.* from this bank, and that all he could give in payment of that debt was 7000*l.*, that is, shares representing 7000*l.*, accompanied with a statement, that if that was not accepted in discharge of his debt of 10,000*l.*, and of all claim upon him by reason of his liability to the

bank as a shareholder, that he would be a bankrupt. That is proved beyond all manner of doubt; and if these transactions, proved in a public court of justice, are not sufficient in a town like Liverpool to warn people of the consequences of getting into these concerns, nothing will do it. I have thought it right to make these observations to you, because it appears on the face of these transactions beyond all doubt that that was so; and, if anything can be a warning to people, that ought to be a warning; and, if it is not, any one who deals in such matters as these afterwards must take the consequences on his own head. Now, to entitle the plaintiff's to your verdict, they must establish two propositions—that the report which was made in July last was a false report, that is, untrue, contrary to the truth; and, further, not merely that it was false, but that it was fraudulently made, and with the intention to mislead and deceive. For the purpose of maintaining an action of this kind, both these matters are essential. The circumstances of the report itself, not being true, would not be sufficient for the purpose; there must be, further, that it was done with a fraudulent intention, for the purpose of misleading these people. Both these matters are essential to the maintenance of this action. Again, they must further satisfy you that this statement, if false and deceitful, was made with the object to mislead them; and that is a matter to which I will now call your attention, as being the least important in the case, but still one upon which you are called to decide. A report was made from the directors to the proprietors. It was, therefore, primarily directed to the proprietors, and primarily intended for them; but if you believe the evidence of Mr. Tinley, that any person who went to the bank, or any broker who dealt in the shares of this kind who went to the bank, could get a copy of this report, obviously for the purpose as a broker of exhibiting it to people who were likely to deal in these shares, it will be for you to say, supposing you are satisfied that this was primarily meant for the proprietors, whether it was not meant for the consideration of any persons who wished to make themselves masters of the affairs of this bank; and if you are of that opinion, then it would be a publication to them—it would be a document issued, and a document issued in the sense that any one wishing to deal in the shares of this bank could obtain it with a view of acting upon it. But that depends altogether on the evidence of Mr. Tinley. That both these men did act upon it (no comment has been made upon that) there is very little doubt, for they get a copy of this report from their broker, Mr. Byrne, the plaintiff puts his initials upon it the same day, and no doubt can be cast upon that. That is the first and a very important matter in this case, of which I will say nothing more at present, but will proceed to call your attention at once to what is the real matter. Now, gentlemen, the evidence of the plaintiff was, no doubt, as has been observed by the Attorney-General, very extraordinary; for in reality the whole of his case, so far as regards the real question in dispute, depends upon written documents. The first document which was put in evidence is the report of the 28th of July, 1857, which is the report in question. Then we have in evidence a speech of Mr. Dixon's, which he made at a meeting in February last; and then follow two documents, being a report of Mr. Banner's, and the proceedings at another meeting in the month of February. By this time, I have no doubt from what has been stated by the learned counsel for the plaintiffs, you are aware that this case depends on the existence of the facts upon the 28th of July, and that all these subsequent matters have really very little to do with it; and if you were to make any inference from the statements contained there by Mr. Banner and others, the impression rather would be in favour of the defendant, because I think you cannot have heard that report read without thinking that no personal blame rests upon any one. But really that is so much beside the question, that I will not trouble you further with it. It seems to me that the case lies in the narrowest compass that a case ever did lie in. It rests upon the true meaning of the document that was published on the 28th of July, and on the account which you have in your hand, that was furnished by Mr. Smith, and the evidence of the defendant himself, and the fair inference from it. The whole of the case rests there: you may dismiss for the purpose of this case the whole of the long reports which have been read to you;—they relate to a state of things which was discovered afterwards, and which there is no reason to suppose Mr. Dixon was acquainted with at the time; at all events there is no evidence of it; and you are to try this cause upon the evidence before you, and not upon surmise of any sort. So far as the evidence goes, it is directly the contrary. Therefore you will dismiss that from your minds at once. The report is this:—"Liverpool Borough Bank,"—the directors are named, and it is "Report of the Directors to the Proprietors." I have made the observations on that as to the other part of the case, and will not repeat them. "According to the last report, the paid-up capital of the bank was 900,000L, and the reserve fund was 101,775L 10s. 11d." No doubt that is true; there is no evidence to the contrary. "Since that date two calls of 1L per share have been paid upon the new shares, making the capital 1,000,000L The net profits of the past year, after payment of all ex-

penses of management, and after deducting 45,825L 2s. 1d. for losses by bad debts incurred during the same period, amount to 69,818L 12s. 8d."—that is also quite true,—"appropriated as follows:—8½ per cent. dividend upon 950,000L, 88,250L: 2½ ditto upon 1,000,000L, 25,000L: property-tax paid by the bank, 8629L 6s. 8d.: total, 61,879L 6s. 8d. Balance carried to Reserve Fund, 7439L 6s." No doubt that is quite correct. "Nearly the whole of the losses above mentioned have been caused by the frauds of a customer. In winding up the affairs of 1854, a year which it is well known was most disastrous to those customers of the Bank who were engaged in the colonial shipping trade, heavier loss has been sustained in the realisation of the assets then taken over, by way of security and in the liquidation of estates then considered good, than could possibly have been anticipated." Some comments have been made in the opening, which were not repeated in reply, by the learned counsel for the plaintiffs upon that, although I do not think they were well founded; because if any misconception were likely to arise upon that, it was clearly corrected by the two first lines in the following paragraph:—"The directors have thought it their duty at once to reduce the dividend to the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, on the grounds that, taking even the most favourable view of the liquidation of these accounts, the whole of the reserve fund will be required to meet the losses incurred;" which shows that the accounts were not liquidated, but were in the course of liquidation—"and that, on the other hand, taking the most unfavourable view consistent with probability, the good current business of the bank will, in their opinion, be sufficient to admit of the regular continuance of the dividend, without encroaching on the capital at the same period in the coming year." Now, there it is said there is a mis-statement, and a fraudulent mis-statement, and if you read this correctly and accurately you will see that what is there really stated is, that in the opinion of the directors there would be sufficient to admit of the actual continuance of the dividend, without encroaching on the capital in the same period of the coming year, and undoubtedly that statement is a statement, that we expect in the next ensuing year there will be no necessity to encroach on the capital, if the profits are continued; and, according to the evidence of Mr. Dixon, there is nothing to contradict that is so. But then it is said that that statement would induce any one to suppose, that the then present dividend was not taken out of capital; and that is where the supposed sting of the matter is. You will find, in one moment, that the rest of the report would certainly not induce any one to purchase in this company; because it says, "In laying this statement before the shareholders, the directors desire strongly to impress upon them that its unsatisfactory character is to be attributed to the affairs of 1854; and that, apart from these, the sound and legitimate business of the bank would have enabled it to pay the ordinary dividends, and also to add largely to the reserve fund, notwithstanding the losses that have been incurred subsequently to that year." Undoubtedly the evidence is that that is correct. "They wish also to state their confident expectation, that the change they are making in the policy and regulations of the bank will effectually guard against the recurrence of similar results. Mr. Smith, having stated to the directors that his health would not longer permit him to undergo the labour of conducting the details of the manager's duties, and having in consequence requested to be relieved from his office, they have with reluctance complied with his wish, and have made arrangements that Mr. Thomas Sellar" —Then there are other matters which I need not trouble you with. I should expect that Mr. Sellar would be a very competent person indeed; and it is perfectly obvious that the plaintiffs, in purchasing these shares, were in some degree influenced by the circumstance that Mr. Sellar had become the manager of this bank. The other evidence, on the part of the plaintiffs, for the purpose of satisfying you that this was a false and fraudulent account, consists of a speech made by Mr. Dixon at a meeting in February last, of which you have a copy, and to which I will very shortly call your attention. Now, the first matter which appears in this speech, and which is indeed confirmed by Mr. Dixon on his oath, is that he in reality, although a Director for some years, knew nothing whatever of the concerns of this bank up to the beginning of the month of July; the report was made on the 28th of that month [and he] states that whatever information he got, he got it during the month anterior to that time. Now, you will see that the earlier parts of this speech, beginning at pages 18 and 19, have very little to do with the matter, but relate to a matter that does not touch it. The real point which does touch upon it is about one-third down in page 20, beginning "Towards the end of June last;" and if you have got that before you, you will find there an important matter:—"Towards the end of June last, Mr. Cross called upon me in London, and stated that Mr. Smith was going to resign, and that Mr. Sellar was to take his place, and he asked me if I would become a managing director. I assented. Immediately on my return to Liverpool my first step was to inquire into the condition of the bank with respect to the declaration or non-declaration of a dividend. The statement of the affairs

of the bank laid before me by Mr. Smith led me to the conclusion that no dividend ought to be declared." That is the document which I now hold in my hand, and which your attention has been most fully called, and which you really are much more competent to understand than I am. But there are one or two observations that I should like to make upon it, especially on those items which are scored through. You will find there are some items that are scored through. I will not go over what was stated very clearly by the defendant himself; but you will just observe that the debit of the bank is made 400,000L. I apprehend that in a concern of this kind Mr. Smith was not at all wrong in taking off sundries for contingencies—that is, that the bank might be losers to the extent of 35,500L beyond 334,000L. I think it is not at all likely to be a wrong estimate, that if they had gone wrong to the extent of 334,000L they might be behind 35,500L more, which they did not know of in consequence of the magnitude of the account. But an observation has been made by the learned counsel as to that 30,000L. The defendant tells you that he thought this 30,000L was unfairly put them as a loss, and I do not think he is wrong in that; because if there was an actual contract to sell these steam-boats for 90,000L, unless there was some reason to suppose that he was wrong (nothing like that appears) if they were not sold there might be a further loss of 30,000L; but if there was a contract for 90,000L it would be hard to say that a man making an estimate of the affairs of the bank should not fairly say why not take credit for the 90,000L? That would make the debit of the bank 400,000L. On the other hand there are undivided profits, 25,000L, and this suspense account, 113,000L. You have heard what the nature of the was—that it was debts owing to the bank which they did not choose to consider as certain, or which they had put as debts due to them, which were otherwise uncertain, as they considered they had a right to put the one against the other. And I have frequently seen in many accounts this suspense account, but I did not know what it meant until I was enlightened upon it here to-day. Here it is; you are much better acquainted with it than I am; and you will be able to say whether it is a proper item to go into this matter or not. Then there is "profits to the 30th of June, 75,000L." No doubt that is true. Then there is an actual reserved fund of 102,000L. No doubt that is true. These sums together would make 380,500L, which would show as against the 400,000L, which if the 30,000L were off would make 380,000L, against 370,000L, or if the 30,000L were to stand, would make 20,000L of deficiency. Then there was added another item by Mr. Smith—"Forfeited shares 65,000L," which is so, I suppose, in point of fact.

Mr. James:—I beg your lordship's pardon, it is 315,000L.

Mr. Baron Martin:—I beg pardon, I was considering the forfeited shares.

Mr. Edwin James:—Those are struck out.

Mr. Baron Martin:—Yes; but I am speaking of the account which the gentleman had to deal with. Gentlemen, you are to consider the state of Mr. Dixon's mind at the time, and you must take the information that is had, and give a fair and liberal consideration to it. It is not as the thing afterwards turned out, but you must give a fair and liberal consideration to his state of mind at that time, when you are trying a question of this description. "Forfeited shares, 65,000L;" that is, I presume, there were shares standing forfeited by shareholders, which they had not paid up upon, and which they had a right to dispose of: and if they sold them at par, those shares at 10L would have realised 63,000L which they might do for the purpose of making the shares complete. That makes the sum of 380,000L. There was then profit for the coming year, 120,000L; and then there was a deduction for the dividend, at five per cent., 70,087L; leaving a balance of 49,913L; and that would put a sum of 430,413L, as against the 400,000L; and there was the account struck by Mr. Smith, deducting the 400,000L, leaving 30,413L as a reserve, after paying the 5 per cent. dividend. It is quite obvious, that that was the statement which was put before the defendant, on which he had to exercise his judgment, and that the estimate which Mr. Smith put before him was that, after paying 5 per cent. on the ensuing year, there would remain a sum of 33,000L, plus beyond that. I have been spelling over it to-day, and the only objection I see to that is, that it seems to me he leaves short one dividend for half a year, and that was then, it would be, so far as the estimate goes, correct. It seems to me, but I may be wrong, that they seem to make a provision for three half-years' dividends, while only two are mentioned here. Beyond that, I see no provision to make upon it. That is what was placed in his hands. He goes on to say,—"This view of the case was assented to at a meeting of the Directors; but at a meeting afterwards, suddenly convened, the decision was reversed." Mr. Woodward says—⁴ "By the whole of the Board, or by part?" Mr. Dixon says—"By the Board, and to which I yielded, the motive being that if it was very dangerous, and the then position of the bank, to run the risk of the excitement that might be produced by the non-declaration of a dividend. It might have resulted in a run, and the stop-

page of the bank." Now, certainly, gentlemen, I think I must say that some observations which have fallen from the plaintiff's counsel, you must receive with some qualification. This was at a time when the bank was believed to be solvent, and when there was no reason at all to suppose it was not solvent. You must look like men of sense on things of this kind, and give them a reasonable consideration, and consider how far people should not take into consideration, if they had not declared a dividend, and declared the whole thing insolvent, what would have occurred. You must give a reasonable consideration to it. I do not think it ought to be your sole guide; but, nevertheless, it is not a matter to be thrown entirely overboard in the consideration of a question of this sort. "I acceded to it only on the understanding recorded on the minutes, that the statement to the shareholders should contain a full and correct disclosure of the position of the bank, even although it should disclose the fact that the dividend was declared out of capital. The report that has been presented, well examined, shows the fact, although I do feel that it does not make the statement in the broad terms that would have been adopted if the intention had been to state that there was a very handsome surplus." I may state, now, that had it not been for that paragraph in this report, [speech?] I should have said there was no case to go to the jury, and should have stopped the case; but the existence of that paragraph, in my judgment, made it a matter in which I thought I could not properly stop the case, but must leave it to you to decide on. I think that paragraph made it evidence to go to you, but if that had not been there, I should have stopped the case, and said there was no evidence to go to you upon the matter. Gentlemen, there is the whole of the speech, so far as it bears upon this; and I need not trouble you with the rest. The other evidence in the plaintiffs' case was the production of that document, which occupied some little time. Then there was the evidence of Mr. Scott, and the evidence of Mr. Robinson, which I need not trouble you with, and the evidence of Mr. Tinsley, which I have already called your attention to; and need not trouble you with it further. It seems to me that all I have now to do is to read the evidence of the defendant himself, and that will put you entirely in a position to decide upon the case. His statement is this,—"I am a member of the firm of Isaac Low and Company. I have been four or five years in business in Liverpool. I was before a merchant and a banker at New Orleans. I was in business there thirteen or fourteen years. I hold 1400 shares in the Borough Bank. I purchased some of them in May, 1857. I purchased more in the same year. I purchased in all 1400 shares in 1857; and I purchased a similar number to similar amounts for two of my partners respectively. I purchased 1500 in all during that period." So that, beyond all manner of doubt, he was a large shareholder in this bank, and was concerned in it to the extent which I have mentioned. "I had 900 shares before this. My earliest purchase was in 1854, and I have parted with none of them. In 1854 I was appointed a director. It was in July or June, 1854. I continued to be so until the stoppage. I am now one of the liquidators. I found, when I became a director, that the managing directors and the manager really conducted the business. The manager was Mr. Smith; he was a permanent paid officer. There were twelve directors; there were two managing directors, and the chairman was *ex officio* a managing director; in point of fact, the business rested with the manager and the two managing directors." So that there can be no doubt of the truth of what I mentioned to you at the beginning of my observations upon this case. "Periodical meetings of the general body took place once a week. If a failure had occurred it was mentioned, and the amount of the loss. A fortnightly balance sheet was also laid before them, which showed the aggregate amount of assets and liabilities. There was a book also which contained a statement of all the disallowed bills. There was another book containing the amount of bills sent to the discount brokers to discount. No means were furnished to the directors to ascertain the correctness, and I believe the others took these statements on the credit of the managing directors. I was dissatisfied with the amount of information afforded. I became so about the beginning of 1856. I set on foot a negotiation to have myself placed on the managing committee. This negotiation failed. I communicated my views to the others. I communicated my views in a formal manner before the board. A minute was made of it then. My suggestion was not adopted. I had no other knowledge than what I have stated, down to 1857. A vacancy occurred in the managing directors in 1857. I was appointed managing director on the 4th of July, 1857." That is the month in which this report was made. "I was appointed, and became so while I was in London. The statement contained in my speech on this subject is correct. When I came to Liverpool I took steps to ascertain what was the real state of things. I put myself in communication with Mr. Smith. I took part in the discussion which ended in the Report of the 28th of July. I applied to Mr. Smith for information as to the losses that had occurred. He furnished me with the paper produced to-day. I carefully went over the figures and discussed them with Mr. Smith. He stated to me that the paper

contained all the losses likely to happen. I had no reason to doubt the accuracy of the statement. I had no means of correcting it if there was an omission or error." He again explains the statement. He says, "On the debit side it contains actual losses, partial losses, and doubtful. The steam vessels were two vessels that had been mortgaged to the bank and which they had contracted to sell for 90,000*l*; I, in my own figures struck off 30,000*l*." He says he did not consider that a fair item of deduction, which you can understand better than I can." The suspense account was profits from commission and interest charged to parties with whom the bank had accounts, but not being of a fully reliable nature the board set them off against possible contingent losses and did not declare them as part of the reserve fund. It was an existing item to the credit of the bank. The reserve fund was what was declared to be payable. I proceeded to consider what dividend ought to be paid for the current half-year. I put down my conclusions in figures. The figures in my handwriting are 384,000*l*. The debit was stated to be 33,000*l*, and I added 25,000*l*; this makes a total of 58,000*l*. I came to the conclusion, in my own mind, that there should not be a dividend. I communicated this view to the managing directors of the board." Gentlemen, you must not be misled about this dividend. A great deal was said about it; but it has nothing to do with the matter. The question is, whether there was or not a false or fraudulent representation contained in that paper; and whether it was a wise or prudent thing to do to declare this dividend, is a matter that has nothing to do with it, and which you have no concern with. That is entirely a by matter. "I communicated my opinion to the whole body. A draft report was drawn up by the manager. I do not know what has become of it. It was drawn up early in July. I attended the meeting on the 4th of July. It was an average full meeting of the board. I maintained my view that there ought to be no dividend, and stated that it was based upon the calculation furnished by Mr. Smith. The majority disagreed with me, and resolved that there should be a dividend. I continued myself to be of the same opinion as before. It was stated by Mr. Smith that he was under the impression that the customers of the bank and the shareholders would be most grievously alarmed by the non-payment of a dividend; and this statement was made before I agreed to submit to the majority. I stated that paying a dividend out of capital was a logical absurdity, which, if "they pleased, they might commit, provided they placed on record a minute, that by so doing they did not interfere with giving to the shareholders a full and correct statement of the affairs of the bank. I drew a draft resolution to the effect, which was read, and a report was ultimately prepared in the form different from that which was ultimately published. This is it." That is a document which has been read. It certainly does go more fully into the matter than the one ultimately published. The first part of it is just the same. "In winding up the affairs of 1854, a year which it is well known was most disastrous to those customers of the bank who were engaged in the colonial shipping trade, heavier loss has been sustained in the realisation of assets then taken over by way of security than the directors could have anticipated, and than the large provision already made for that purpose will meet. While the directors entertain no doubt that the policy of taking over these assets was one by which the interest of the bank was best consulted, they regret to inform the shareholders that the result of a careful revision of these assets leads them to declare that the reserve fund can no longer be considered an item to the credit of the bank, and that the further amount required to meet these losses, if realised at once, would absorb about 58,000*l* of the capital of the bank." I have no doubt that was the 58,000*l* which he had taken from the figures. For (after) the "capital of the bank" there is a blank left. Then he proceeds to say, "Under these circumstances the directors were in doubt as to the propriety of paying any dividend for the last half-year, but concluded to do so on the ground that the business of the past year, taken by itself, warranted their doing so." That seems to be the truth, that the legitimate profits of the bank for that year did so. "And that it was advisable to separate (spread) the losses arising from the affairs of 1854 over a future period, rather than expose the shareholders to the inconvenience;" there are then several amendments struck out—"rather than expose the shareholders to the inconvenience of an intermission of any dividend, which some of them might feel perhaps very severely. The directors do not see any more impropriety in this course than in that of an individual, after an unfortunate year's business, supplying his necessary expenses out of his trading capital, provided always that the fact of this being done is fairly and honestly laid before the shareholders." That was the document which he prepared, and which he states he drew up. A discussion took place upon it. It was set aside, and they did not like it. "Ultimately, I concurred in what was published. I believed the statements in the report to be true. I believed all the statements made in it to be true. I have since acquired a very great deal of information as to the affairs of the bank. My opinion as to the profits of the bank, as stated in that report, was well based. There was nothing in the report tending

to deceive any one at all conversant with banking business. I think that, with average profits, a dividend might have been made, without infringing on the capital [in the following year]. The profits, from the 30th of June to the 27th of October, were in a greater ratio than to satisfy what I stated. I have since obtained a great deal of information which I had not and could not then have had—the information on which this report was prepared. Gentlemen, there is the case. You have heard it, I am sure, most admirably commented on; and you have finally to decide, on the evidence, these two questions,—was that report a false report? and was it a fraudulent report? And before the plaintiff is entitled to your verdict, he must satisfy you of both. I have already made those observations to you with respect to the acting upon it, for the purpose of suggesting that you must be satisfied that these reports were issued generally to brokers, so as to enable people who were desirous of informing themselves of the affairs of the bank, to consult and to get information upon it; for, if so, although primarily intended for the proprietors, nevertheless you will have to say whether it was not intended for the information of any one who desired to get information upon the subject. You must make up your minds affirmatively upon all these questions before you find for the plaintiffs, and then the amount claimed is 142*l*; and in the result of your being of opinion that the verdict should be for the plaintiffs, it is for you to say whether that is the proper amount of damages.

The jury retired to consider their verdict at ten minutes past six o'clock. They returned into court in about half an hour, and gave a **VERDICT FOR THE PLAINTIFFS**, damages 142*l*. 7*s*. 6*d*.

The Attorney-General.—Would your lordship stay execution in this case?

The Judge.—There is no law, I apprehend, in it. Surely there is no cause for any staying execution.

The Attorney-General.—Perhaps not.

The Judge said that in three or four cases, at the request of the counsel, he had stayed execution. He begged it might not be accepted as an expression of dissatisfaction on his part with the verdicts. He was not dissatisfied with any of the verdicts that had been given here. The only objection he had to staying execution was that it was supposed he was dissatisfied with the verdict returned.

The Attorney-General.—I have not ventured to suggest it.

The Judge.—You may have it; but I do hope that that will not be construed into any expression of my opinion. There can be no reasonable objection to a week.

MR. DIXON'S SPEECH

AT THE MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS IN FEB., 1858.

I PROPOSE, before proceeding any further, to make a few remarks in my own individual capacity as a Director. I cannot but feel that the position in which the Directors are placed is one of very great discredit—(hear, hear)—and I wish, as fully as I can, to explain my part in the direction. It is now about three and a half years since I became a director in this bank. At the time I was only very recently resident in Liverpool, and the whole of my commercial life had been spent abroad. It struck me as very strange that the directors—the outside directors—knew nothing of what was going on in the bank, so as to enable them to exercise any control over it. Being the youngest man at the board, and the youngest member, I did not feel myself warranted in setting myself in opposition to routine before I had made inquiries as to what was the custom amongst the directors of other banks in the kingdom. I am on delicate ground here, but I feel that I am justified in saying that the practice of the Directors of this Bank, in respect to not having an insight into its affairs, is not by any means unusual or exceptional. It is not the only bank in the kingdom where the outside directors know little or nothing at all; still I do not think that the practice in itself is right; I think that it is vicious and wrong, and that people allowing themselves to be called directors of an institution ought at the least to discharge something of the duty which they take upon themselves. (Cheers.) I was dissatisfied with it. About two years ago there was a negotiation for placing me on the managing committee. I have no hesitation in saying that the negotiation was so backed that it ought to have succeeded. I merely mention this to explain how it is that, having felt the impropriety of the position occupied by the directors, I was so long before giving effect to those views which I admit I entertained. The negotiation took some time; and, while it was pending, seeing that there was a prospect of my having that degree of information which was required, and an influence which would enable me to alter the practice of the bank, I was indisposed to do anything, but wait the result. The negotiation came to nothing. About August, 1856, Mr. Sellar was appointed managing director. I had known him long, and felt that his business capacity and qualifications were such that I was sure that if the affairs of the bank were not previously managed as well as they ought to be, they would greatly benefit by the assistance he would give. I knew nothing of the affairs of the bank, excepting what might be in-

ferred from the fact, that the stock and dividend were not so high as they ought to have been in a well-managed bank, and under the favourable circumstances in which all banking institutions were placed. This gave me a very strong impression that the affairs of the bank were not well managed, although I had no further ground for censure. In November, 1856, Mr. Sellar's affairs took him abroad, and some time previous to his departure, I intimated to him that I should not feel satisfied to remain at the board unless the directors were allowed access to information which would enable them to judge of the position of the bank. I was informed that this would be laid before the directors, and the subject be immediately discussed. After Mr. Sellar left, I intimated the same to our respected chairman, and in May or April of last year, in order to prevent further delay, I had placed on the minute book of the directors a minute stating the amount, the extent, and the kind of information that I thought ought to be placed before the directors, in order to enable them to discharge their duty, instead of filling a merely nominal position. When Mr. Doherty's matter came on, I again placed on the book a record of my opinion that the nature of the transaction by which the loss was incurred was unbusinesslike, and ought not to have occurred. (Cheers.) I also stated that in my opinion the managing directors were as blamable as the manager for the loss. (Hear, hear.) It was then for the first time that I became aware that the managing directors had almost as little control over, or knowledge of the affairs of the bank, as the outside directors. Towards the end of June last, Mr. Cross called upon me in London, and stated that Mr. Smith was going to resign, and that Mr. Sellar was to take his place, and he asked me if I would become a managing director. I assented. Immediately on my return to Liverpool, my first step was to inquire into the condition of the bank with respect to the declaration or non-declaration of a dividend. The statement of the affairs of the bank laid before me by Mr. Smith, led me to the conclusion that no dividend ought to be declared. (Hear, hear.) This view of the case was assented to at a meeting of the directors; but at a meeting afterwards, suddenly convened, the decision was reversed by the board, and to which I yielded, the motive being, that it was very dangerous in the then position of the bank, to run the risk of the excitement that might be produced by the non-declaration of a dividend; it might have resulted in a run, and the stoppage of the bank. I acceded to it only on the understanding recorded in the minutes, that the statement to the shareholders should contain a full and correct disclosure of the position of the bank, even although it should disclose the fact that the dividend was declared out of capital. The report that had been presented, well examined, shows the fact, although I do feel that it does not make the statement in the broad terms that would have been adopted if the intention had been to state that there was a very handsome surplus. Immediately on my return from London I was made *ad interim director*, and during the whole of the month of July I was the only managing director present. After the meeting I was formally appointed managing director, and since that period nearly the whole of my time, up to the end of December, has been occupied by the affairs of this bank. It was a very difficult post, but I am happy to say that the new management has been on the whole remarkably successful and fortunate in the avoidance of loss, except such as the inevitable necessity of the case brought upon us by the connexion of the bank with so many insolvent houses. About October last it became apparent to me that the position of the bank was far worse than I had ever dreamed of, and far worse than those hitherto in the management of the concern had ever allowed themselves to think. I set to work and made up a statement of the position of the bank—of its losses, its lock-ups, its doubtful debts, and its doubtful paper—basing my estimate upon the knowledge that I had myself gained since the first of August, in which I was assisted freely and fairly by all those engaged in the past and present management of the bank—and I came to the conclusion that one-half of the capital of the bank was irrecoverably gone; this knowledge I am bound to say for myself only came upon me at that time. I was not in the least aware of it when the annual statement was made to the shareholders in July, and I may also truly say that I believe none of those previously concerned in the management of the bank were at all aware of it, or suspected it; trusting to a sanguine temperament instead of taking a business-like view of the then existing state of things. It was then we became aware of the actual position of the bank. The sequel of this was a communication by me with the proper parties, and an application to the Bank of England, which resulted as you all know. I do think that directors have a duty to perform, and that they are responsible for some show, at any rate, of attempt to perform it; and I therefore feel it due to myself in the position in which I have been placed from the beginning, and in the sort of prominence which circumstances have forced upon me during the last few months, to make some statement exculpating myself from the appearance of utter neglect of what I confess to be the duty of directors. I do not suppose that any one concerned in this most unfortunate and disastrous business can hope to extricate himself

from it with advantage, but I do hope that it may be considered by you that, under the circumstances and difficulties of the position in which I was placed, it would have been impossible for me to have adopted any better line of conduct than that which I have done. It is obvious that when it first became apparent to me that the directors were nominal personages, instead of taking an actual and positive part in the management of the bank, then came the critical point of my connexion with you as director. Now what was I to do? I might simply have retired from the office, and very fortunate would it have been for me in the matter of personal ease and pecuniary interest if I had done so. But what would have done in the way of benefiting the shareholders? I might have run a muck against routine, and consigned myself instantaneously to the impotence of not being able to effect anything. I preferred rather to abide my time and to see whether I could do something towards amending a system which I felt to be wrong. The result is before you.

POLITICAL FORESHADOWINGS.

MR. DISRAEELI—Great expectations were entertained on Thursday at Aylesbury of some intimation from the Chancellor of the Exchequer of the measures of Reform which are to be proposed by the Government in the next session. A prior engagement, however, and a 10*l.* note were pleaded for the Chancellor's absence. His revelations, if he makes any in the recess, may be expected next week at Buckingham.

MR. NEWDEGATE, M.P., ON PROGRESS.—At a numerous and respectable assembly at Coventry, on Monday, at which Mr. Newdegate presided, he said, in returning thanks for the health of the county members (Messrs. Newdegate and Spooner)—"I thank you for the honour you have done me as one of your members, and I will take the liberty of saying here that I do not believe there are any two members representing any constituency who are more entirely devoted to the fulfilment of their duties than ourselves. I believe it is only by a firm adherence to those principles which I have advocated in Parliament, and upon which the constitution of England is founded, that you can preserve intact the inestimable blessings of freedom which it is your privilege to possess. Be assured that if we wish the country to continue in a course of progress, and I say 'progress' advisedly, such a wish will be best accomplished by remaining within the limits of those principles the practice of which has raised this country to its present state of proud pre-eminence. When others tell you that a Conservative has no right to speak of progress, pay no attention to them. For myself, I wish for progress. I desire to see all classes of the community advance, but I desire to advance within the limits of principles which constitute safety, and if there is any difference of opinion between myself and others upon this question of progress, it amounts to this, that I would prefer to see the engine of the State driven carefully and safely down the rails, while I at the same time entertain a strong doubt whether the Liberals, as they are termed, would not either shut us into a dangerous siding, or land us at the wrong platform."

MR. CRAUFURD, M.P.—The member for the Ayr district of boroughs made a speech to his constituents at the end of the last week, which was chiefly distinguished for its reference to Scotch topics. Speaking of the last invasion panic, he remarked that the French were not fools enough to come over to England in that way. "If," said he, "they landed fifty thousand men, how many of them would get back, and how much treasure would they be able to seize?"

MR. MELLOR ON THE POLITICAL FUTURE.—Mr. Mellor, M.P., and Mr. A. W. Young, M.P., have addressed their constituents at Great Yarmouth on the past session and the prospects of the future. Mr. Mellor said he believed the property qualification was a sham and pretence, for he knew some members who opposed the late bill on the subject who were sitting on a sham qualification. With regard to the suffrage, he was anxious for its extension; but he thought it would be a questionable measure unless it was accompanied by the ballot. He was prepared to support the extension of the suffrage on broad and general grounds, but believed it would be a doubtful benefit if the protection of the ballot was withheld. He believed the settlement of the Church-rate question was essential to the interests of religion and of the Church. Mr. Mellor said he did not go to Cherbourg, and he thought it undignified for members of the House of Commons to accept the loan of a steamer from a private company. If war should at any time unhappily occur, Englishmen would have something more to do than to sing "Rule Britannia." We must take care of our fleets, be neither boastful nor fearful, but go on the even tenor of our way, trusting in God, and "keeping our powder dry." Mr. Young, in the course of his observations, said the present Conservative Administration delegated all their proper functions to their opponents, and were unable to carry a single measure of their own.

SIR JOHN S. TRELAWNY, M.P., AT TAVISTOCK.—On Monday Sir J. S. Trelawny, member for this borough, addressed his constituents. After alluding to his votes on the Conspiracy Bill and other questions, he observed:

"With regard to the measures introduced for the government of India, Lord Palmerston produced a very good, a well-considered bill, and one which everybody thought was likely to pass, but the Conspiracy Bill came and interrupted its course. Another bill was introduced by Lord Ellenborough, one with a very considerable deal of 'clap-trap' about it. That bill had every prospect of being rejected; but Lord John Russell moved that the house should proceed by way of resolution. This proposition was grasped at by the Government, seeing they had thus a good chance to escape, and a number of resolutions were adopted and made the foundation of a new bill, which will go far to effect a remedy of the evils which existed previously. The measure was passed, and I hope to see it productive of good to both countries. It is a good thing that we have at the head of the India Government a man so liberal and talented as Lord Stanley; he has selected directors from both sides of the house—indeed, such a council as he formed for India has rarely had its equal." Speaking of the House of Lords, Sir J. Trelawny said:—"There is a body in the House of whom it was said that they accepted the Jew Bill but refused the Church-rate Bill, so as to compound the matter, and I am afraid we may have great cause to divide ourselves from the bishops, for the bill was smothered by a great avalanche of long-sleeved bishops. They were all-potential, and threw out the bill. I speak with respect, but I cannot think they were wise in their course, and I would rather they had assisted me, as they might have done, with effect and in a manner beneficial to the Church of England." After commenting on other matters of minor importance he reviewed the position of parties in the House, and gave it as his opinion that the present Government could not stand, because it comprised such opposite shades of opinion, and any future Government must, he said, include in its ranks Lord John Russell, on whom as a statesman he passed a high encomium. He concluded by stating that no government would stand any length of time which would not guarantee to introduce a comprehensive Reform Bill."

A NEW REFORM BILL.—The *Observer* publishes what it calls the New Reform Bill of the Liberal party, forwarded by the Secretary of the "Reform Association." This production does not seem to be of any importance save in the way of showing what may be done in the redistribution of members. We do not find a word in it concerning an extension of the suffrage, or the vote by ballot, or the shortening of the duration of Parliaments. There are seven schedules appended, all referring to changes in reference to the distribution of members. Twenty-four boroughs, which now return members with fewer than four hundred electors, are proposed to be altogether disfranchised. All boroughs not having one thousand voters each, and which return two members, would only return one, and of such there are forty-five. These changes would leave eighty-one members to be disposed of, and how? First, ten counties, or divisions of counties, having the largest populations, would get one additional member each; cities and boroughs of largest population would get the same; three boroughs now returning one member would have two; then there would be the creation of twenty-five new boroughs in places not now represented. Other arrangements are proposed for transferring the remaining members.

MEETING AT FINSBURY.—A public meeting was held on Monday in the Belvedere, Pentonville, for the purpose of advocating political reform. The meeting was called together by the local branch of the Political League. A resolution was unanimously carried to present a petition to the House of Commons for universal suffrage.

CONSERVATIVE VIEW OF REFORM.—We have no right to consider consequences; our business is to "be just and fear not." If any class deserve the franchise, give it them; if any class merits the withdrawal of that privilege, take it away from them; if constituencies require enlargement, extend their area or increase their number of members; if rotten boroughs still exist, deprive them of the right of representation; and all this on the principles of abstract justice and of political propriety, not in order to gratify one or other party in the State, for that would be to do exactly what was in so many instances the guiding motive of the authors of the Reform Bill of 1832. What may ensue is in the hands of Providence. The Conservative party may lose a preponderance in certain counties, and a few members in the House of Commons both for boroughs and for counties; they may be depressed for time and their opponents encouraged to lay hands more boldly on our most sacred institutions; but they will gain the credit of not sacrificing justice to party, and they will receive the willing tribute of respect from equity-loving and straightforward Englishmen.—*Constitutional Press.*

INAUGURATION OF THE NEWTON STATUE AT GRANTHAM.

This event was celebrated on Tuesday with great pomp and ceremony, and in the midst of a vast concourse of persons, who were attracted by the occasion, including men of science from all parts of the country. Lord Brougham, who had been requested to preside, accompanied the procession to the site of the statue. There were also present the Mayor of Grantham, Mr. Ostle,

the Bishop of Lincoln, Sir J. Trollope, M.P., Mr. Milnes, M.P., Dr. Whewell, Professor Owen, Sir J. Renzie, Sir Benjamin Brodie, Lord A. Compton, Dr. Lathan, and a most numerous assemblage.

Lord Brougham delivered an oration which has scarcely been surpassed by the eloquence of his more youthful days. The demand upon our space prevents our giving more than a very slight sketch of this magnificent discourse. His Lordship said:—"To record the names and preserve the memories of those whose great achievements in science, in arts, or in arms have conferred benefit and lustre upon our kind, has in all ages been regarded as a duty and felt as a gratification by wise and reflecting men. We are this day assembled to commemorate him of whom the consent of nations has declared that he is chargeable with nothing like a follower's exaggeration or local partiality, who pronounces the name of Newton as that of the greatest genius ever bestowed by the bounty of Providence, for instructing mankind on the frame of the universe and the laws by which it is governed." The noble Lord, after a very elaborate and masterly description of the imperfect previous efforts of philosophers in their search after truth, said that there is no doubt that Newton stands at the head of those who have extended the bounds of knowledge. "The most marvellous attribute of Newton's discoveries is that in which they stand out prominent among all the other feats of scientific research, stamped with the peculiarity of his intellectual character. Their great author lived before his age, anticipating in part what was long after wholly accomplished; and thus unfolding some things which at the time could be but imperfectly, others not at all, comprehended; and not rarely pointing out the path and affording the means of treading it, to the ascertainment of truths then veiled in darkness. He not only enlarged the actual dominion of knowledge, penetrating to regions never before explored, and taking with a firm hand undisputed possession; but he showed how the bounds of the visible horizon might be yet further extended, and enabled his successors to occupy what he could only descry. But the contemplation of Newton's discoveries raise other feelings than wonder at his matchless genius. The light with which it shines is not more dazzling than useful. The difficulties of his course, and his expedients alike copious and refined for surmounting them, exercise the faculties of the wise, while commanding their admiration; but the results of his investigations, often abstruse, are truths so grand and comprehensive, yet so plain, that they both captivate and instruct the simple. The gratitude, too, which they inspire, and the veneration with which they encircle his name, far from tending to obstruct future improvement, only proclaim his disciples, the zealous because rational followers of one whose example both encouraged and enabled his successors to make further progress. Of Newton it might well be said—"If you seek for a monument lift up your eyes to the heavens which show forth his fame." Nor when we recollect the Greek orator's exclamation,—"The whole earth is the monument of illustrious men," can we stop short of declaring that the whole universe is Newton's. Yet in raising the statue which preserves his likeness, near the place of his birth, on the spot where his prodigious faculties were unfolded and trained, we at once gratify our honest pride as citizens of the same state, and humbly testify our grateful sense of the Divine goodness which deigned to bestow upon our race one so marvellously gifted to comprehend the works of Infinite Wisdom, and so plausibly resolved to make all his study of them the source of religious contemplations, both philosophical and sublime.

At the repast which followed the inauguration, the Mayor eulogised the noble lord's exertions for the abolition of slavery, the extension of education, and the reformation of the law.

Lord Brougham, in returning thanks, alluded to people having assembled from all parts of the country simply to testify their honest and heartfelt pride that the country which gave them birth had produced the greatest genius which had ever existed,—a man whose talents had never been exercised but for the extension of truth, for the instruction of mankind, and with a view to illustrate the wisdom and power of the Creator.

In the course of the evening, Dr. Whewell observed that the University of Cambridge, and Trinity College especially, had always manifested the most vivid and active sympathy in the speculations and the name of Newton.

IRELAND.

INUNDATIONS AND LOSS OF LIFE.—The Irish papers describe at great length the serious effects of a storm of rain which broke over a wide district on Friday last, causing not only an enormous destruction of property, but also loss of human life. At Abbeyfeale, a correspondent of the *Evening Mail* reports that Mr. Rourk, clerk to the Rev. Mr. Norman, Mrs. Bailey, an old lady about eighty years of age, who lived with her aged husband in a cottage near the bridge—which was swept away by the force of the water—a respectable farmer, named Dennis Connor, a workman named Sheehan, and a girl, whose name was not known, had all been carried away with the flood. The county of Cork was also

visited with the storm, followed by inundations and destruction of property. In the west the visitation has been equally severe. For the last month the weather in Mayo has been most unfavourable for the farmer. Endless rain, accompanied by furious gales of wind, had almost suspended all the husbandman's operations. On Friday last it blew very hard, and about three o'clock p.m. it began to rain as if it had never rained before. It fell in torrents, and before nightfall the rivers had all flooded their banks. The news from Connemara and Westport is equally disastrous.

THE MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY AND HER TENANCY.—The annual entertainment of the tenantry on the estate of the Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry was held in the village of Carnlough, on Thursday last. Her Ladyship said:—"I confess I feel great satisfaction in knowing that since ten years ago, when I first came to reside among you, a great and visible improvement has taken place—that you, in conjunction with the people of the country generally, have made vast strides in progress and amelioration of your condition; but though much has been done, much more remains to be accomplished. Might you not, by thrifty and frugal habits, improve your homes and domiciles, still greatly capable of it? and might you not, by supervision, promote, what is more important than all, the education of your children, rather than, from a false desire of gain, take them from school at a period when every hour is of advantage for their future welfare? Now, I ask you to ponder over these questions, and if I am right I ask further, for your own sakes, to apply a remedy. Discard prejudice, determine to advance, be thrifty and careful, and, with God's blessing, you will advance in that path of improvement in which you have already made such progress."

POLICY OF THE INDEPENDENT OPPOSITION.—There was a meeting held on Tuesday, at Mill-street, in the county of Cork, for the purpose of considering the position and prospects of the Tenant-right question. The proceedings occupy no less than nine newspaper columns. The priests mustered in respectable force, and took their share in the speeching; but the leading speaker on the occasion was the member for Dungarvan. The hon. gentleman was the proposer of a resolution, which was unanimously adopted:—"That we look forward with natural anxiety to the promised bill of the Government, in the earnest hope that it may be acceptable to the people of Ireland." The *Reporter* (Liberal and Roman Catholic) describes the meeting as being of the usual character. The orators were mouthy, and the general complexion of the deliberation decidedly flabby.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

A few days ago a fire took place at Greenwich which unfortunately resulted in the death of two infant children. The adjourned coroner's inquest was held on Monday, when evidence was submitted of a character to justify the suspicion that the crime of arson had been committed.

The investigation into the circumstances of the late accident on the St. Germain Railway is at an end. The station-master at Vesinet and the telegraph director on the line between St. Germain and Paris have been sent before the tribunals, charged with homicide by imprudence.

A shocking accident occurred on Tuesday evening to Mr. Turner, the station-master at Sawley, on the Midland line. While recrossing the rail, after adjusting the signals, he was overtaken by a passenger train, by which he was struck, and killed on the spot.

Between one and two o'clock on Wednesday morning, a wooden bridge on the Trent Valley line of railway was discovered to be on fire, and by six o'clock the structure was entirely destroyed. At the distance of a mile and a quarter from Stafford the railway crossed the River Penk and the canal by means of the viaduct now consumed, which was one hundred and fifty yards in length, and erected at a cost of 8000*l*. The traffic between Stafford and Rugby, of course, is completely stopped by the calamity. It cannot be ascertained what was the origin of the fire.

Two houses fell down in Pilgrim-street, Ludgate Hill, on Thursday morning about half-past one. The whole of the two houses had fallen outwards, completely blocking up the doorway of the adjoining house, which contained fourteen persons, who cried piteously for help. It was at first supposed that great loss of life had occurred. We have not heard of any person being injured, however except, from the terror occasioned by this fearful midnight alarm.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

MURDER AT LISKEARD.—William Ball, a young miner, of St. Cleer, has been committed for trial by the Liskeard magistrates for the wilful murder of Daniel Donaway, also a miner. Prisoner, deceased, and several of their companions, after having been drinking several hours, left the public-house at midnight, when a row ensued. Deceased struck prisoner, who thereupon went back eight or ten feet, made a run at deceased, and gave him an under blow in the bowels. It was subsequently

found the deceased had been stabbed between the hip and the navel. Death ensued.

HOMICIDE.—An inquest was held at Dover on the body of John Walsh, a private in the 60th Rifles, who died on Sunday from the effects of a blow given him by Joseph Blackwell, the keeper of a public-house in Priory-street. Walsh was drinking there with some other soldiers, and as he had not money enough to pay for the beer he had drunk, a quarrel ensued between him and the landlord, who, on Walsh's leaving the house, followed and struck him a blow on the neck with a poker. Walsh died soon after he was taken to the guard-house. The inquest was adjourned.

SUICIDE.—An inquest was opened at Camberwell, to ascertain the cause of death of a man who was found in a field near the New-road, Rotherhithe, with his throat cut. The inquiry is adjourned for identification of the body, but it is believed the unfortunate man has committed self-destruction.

MILITARY SCOUNDREL.—On the 22nd of March, 1855, the 7th Regiment of Fusiliers were performing trench duty before Sebastopol, when privates Thomas Tole and Moore left the lines and went over to the enemy. The treacherous information they gave of the position of the company they had deserted from proved a guide to the Russians, who, making a determined attack upon them the same night, killed Captain the Hon. Cavendish Brown and thirty men. Tole was not given up with the exchange of prisoners at the end of the war, but went to St. Petersburg. He returned to England, and took up his quarters in Manchester. Several months ago he was taken into custody on suspicion of this crime, but the evidence failed. Later correspondence with the commanding officer led to the production of witnesses who could speak more positively, and on Monday Tole was again placed before the city magistrate, when satisfactory evidence was given regarding his going over to the enemy, and he was delivered to the military. Tole states that his companion, Moore, died in two days after they joined the Russians.—*Manchester Examiner*.

ARSON.—A fire occurred on Sunday evening at Warley, two miles from Halifax. The barn attached to the farm of Mr. Hargreaves, of Winterburn-hill, was burnt to the ground, occasioning the loss of a large quantity of hay and grain, together with four fine cows. It appears clear that the fire was the work of an incendiary. Mr. Hargreaves, about midnight, was alarmed by his wife, who heard a crackling noise. He endeavoured to open the door of the barn or mistal, but could not, because of an obstruction within. He obtained assistance, but the flames had become too powerful, and the premises were destroyed. On examining the building, afterwards, one of the cows was found lying dead behind the mistal door, its head and foreparts being literally roasted. Three others were chained within the booths. The four cows were valued at about 60*l*. the stock of hay and wheat at 160*l*, and the building at from 150*l* to 200*l*.

REMOVAL OF CONVICTS.—On Wednesday, a party of 100 convicts were forwarded from the metropolis to the new convict establishment, Chatham, for the dockyard and public works now in progress at that place. The convicts left London-bridge station by train, in charge of several warders, all armed. On their arrival at the Strood station they were chained together in gangs, and conveyed in vans to the convict establishment. They will supply the places of 140 convicts recently forwarded from Chatham to Bermuda.

GATHERINGS FROM LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

THE CIVIL PERSECUTION OF THE STREET FRUIT-SELLERS STILL CONTINUES. On Saturday the Lord Mayor gave another illustration of his ideas of justice by fining one of these poor creatures a shilling, or committing him in default to three days' imprisonment.

A commercial traveller named Sigismund Sinkerfeld, in the service of a Manchester fringe manufacturer, was charged before the Lord Mayor with stealing a quantity of goods, the property of his employer. The prisoner was apprehended by an officer in Houndsditch, who received instructions to convey him to Manchester, to be dealt with by the magistrates there. Duplicate for some of the goods were found upon him. He said there was some money owing to him by his employer.

A commercial traveller, named William Peckall, in the employ of a wholesale oilman in Woolwich, was committed for trial by Mr. Traill on a charge of very extensive robbery, carried on in a systematic manner for a lengthened period of time, by sending goods out to tradesmen and drawing the money without rendering any account of it. A carman whom he had taken into his confidence was admitted as witness against him.

A man was brought before the Lambeth police magistrate on Saturday, charged with having deliberately mutilated an orange-tree in the grounds of the Crystal Palace. The charge was clearly proved, and the offender justly sentenced to pay a fine of 5*l*.

Some time ago, the late secretary to the Irish Land Investment Company appeared at Guildhall against the directors, who were represented by Mr. Batty, the accountant, charging them with neglecting to register according to the requirements of the Joint-Stock Companies Act. At the appearance to the adjourned sum-

stances the protectionists fell back upon their old system of agitation and misrepresentation. In the Council of State a rancorous and unreasoning opposition was organized against the Prince, which did not declare itself openly, but was manifested in a hundred mean and petty ways. In the manufacturing districts the opposition was of course more violent, and the Emperor was pelted with petitions. His Majesty may be well excused if he prefers peace to strife, even in a just cause. He has arrived at mature years, and has domestic cares gathering round him. At fifty few care to embark upon a crusade, especially when they wear the purple, and command all the material enjoyments of life. Accordingly, at the beginning of the week, out came the *Mousquet* with a paragraph at the head of the non-official part of that official journal, stating that—"Several journals have announced, for some days past, that the Government of the Emperor thought of introducing serious modifications into the commercial régime of Algeria. These pretended projects, and the polemic to which they have given rise, have excited in the manufacturing districts a certain disquietude. To put an end to it, it is sufficient to state that it has in no wise entered into the thought of Government to change the customs law which rules Algeria, and determines its relation with France." At first, this paragraph was regarded as a defeat for the free-traders. The protectionists have shouted *Io passa* through their organs, but now, when the surprise has worn off, a shrewd suspicion is gaining ground that both parties have been deceived—the free-traders in fancying what was a mere postponement of victory to be a defeat, and the protectionist in claiming as a victory a decision which entirely defeats their pretension—nearly successful with Maréchal Vaillant—to secure the monopoly of Algeria to themselves, by assimilating its customs dues to those of France, which would, of course, exclude many foreign goods. The contest is removed from Algeria, and it is certainly more consonant with the dignity of the advocates of commercial freedom that the great battle of free trade should be fought in France rather than in an outlying province. That the cause of protection has gained nothing by the publication of the ministerial decision I verily believe, for it has induced the Prince Napoleon to declare his liberal sentiments all the more unreservedly.

Towards the conclusion of the session the General Council of the department of the Hérault—the stronghold of free trade—expressed a hope that on the occasion of his journey to Algeria the Prince would visit the harbour of Cet. To this request the Prince replied that the little time he could employ for his journey would, probably, prevent his staying at Cet; and he added, "The question of commercial liberty raised by the General Council of your department is one of those which the most excites my sympathy. The progress of our industry causes it to advance every day, and soon the revision of the customs tariff will alarm no interest." Had it not been for the publication in the *Mousquet* of the Ministerial decision, the Prince's letter would not have seen light. The *Patric*, which is inspired by M. le Vicomte de la Guérinière, who is, perhaps, the most liberal among the supporters of the Empire, and almost a personal friend of the Prince, applied for and obtained permission to publish this letter to vindicate itself from the charge of having misrepresented the opinions of Algeria and the colonies. None of the protectionist papers have yet published the letter, that I am aware of, nor has the *Séicle*, which has just given its adhesion to moderate protection.

The events of the week, therefore, are not calculated to give peace of mind to the partisans of monopoly. They are not to be further protected than at present in Algeria, and the Prince Napoleon has declared for free trade. The last is the greatest blow of all, for in case of the Emperor's death he would be chief of the Regency Council and would necessarily exercise considerable influence. Should death overtake the young Prince Imperial, he would succeed to the empire, and as there are remote contingencies, but not impossibilities, your readers can well understand how great is the fear and doubt of the protectionists. One of the organs of the Algerian and colonial ministry remarks, with equal force and justice, that shortly the free-trade party will be reconstituted, when it will be the better able, on the question being brought forward again, to defend the wants of Algeria against the exclusive interest of the manufacturing districts. What the colonists think, and what they require, seems to be entirely forgotten, and yet the majority of them are ardently attached to commercial freedom for the very best of all reasons—because it is to their interest, and without it they languish and perish. The Municipal Council of Bône recently declared the trade of bâche free—we have not got so far as that yet in Paris—when a local journal writes:—"Free trade in bread is advantageous to the common weal and in conformity with the healthy doctrine of political economy. We desire to see extended more and more the branches of commercial liberty in our colony. There is one of the important points of transformation of the colony. The more Algeria reduces her prohibitive system, which cripples the importation of foreign goods, as well as the exportation of her products, and diminishes the privileges of her internal trade, which are injurious to public interests, the more will she

attract wealth and emigrants. Let commercial freedom shine forth in Algeria. To-day we have free bread, the first taste whereof appears excellent. When will the butchers' trade be free? All commercial liberties hold together like bread and meat, and we hunger for them."

If it may be permitted to speculate on the future, one can easily imagine that when Algeria becomes more populated, it will grow more and more independent of the parent State. Already the tutelage—to use the Prince-Minister's own words—of a pure French bureaucracy and soldatesque administration is felt to be oppressive. The foreign element among the colonists quite equals, if it does not exceed, the French one, and few among either of them will care to be kept in trade-bondage in order that the manufacturers of Rouen, Lille, and Mulhouse may swell their profits. Had the protectionists succeeded in their intrigues at the War-office, the colonists would have had to pay a tribute of nearly a million sterling annually, which would have amounted to a tax of five pounds a head, for the sole benefit of French manufacturers. Should this exaction be continued, the common sense as well as the interests of the colonists will rise up against the system, and Algeria may have her Declaration of Independence as well as the United States. It must not, however, be supposed that all the colonists are as liberal and enlightened as those previously mentioned. Among the railways projected in Algeria is one to Oran. The line, it appears, would traverse the Santa Cruz Mountain, and place Oran in easy communication with Mers-el-Kebir, which is a safe, excellent seaport, whereas the present port of Oran, Lamoune, is open to every wind and to every sea. The Chamber of Commerce of Oran consists of twelve gentlemen, who are proprietors of land and houses bordering the port of Lamoune. The property, in consequence of an absurd speculation, stood at high prices some time, but these have now fallen very low, in consequence of the prospect of a communication being opened with Mers-el-Kebir. This fall has sorely vexed the Chamber of Commerce, whose wise men have prepared a petition against the railway, which they are endeavouring to get numerously signed, for presentation to the Prince. The twelve Oranites, jealous of the fame of the three tailors of Tooley-street, styled themselves "the whole population," and as that phrase appeared too small for their importance, they gradually expanded into "Europe and Algeria altogether." Falstaff's men in buckram are beaten hollow by the twelve Oranites, who in their organ called the railway a "poison and a hangman's cord." As it would be a pity that the leaders of the twelve should be unknown beyond Oran, or that the world should be ignorant of the names of the three wise men that have risen up to preach against railways, I forward them, wreathed in immortal verse by an Oran poet, presuming that the opponents to the railway were originally only five:—

"De neuf qui nous élève à d'ouïe?
Ramoger, Bonfort, et Toulouse.
Qui nous défend dans le danger?
Bonfort, Toulouse, et Ramoger.
Applaudissez tout au plus fort,
Ramoger, Toulouse, et Bonfort."

The report of the Minister of Justice upon the state of crime in France for 1856 has just been presented, from which I extract a few melancholy facts that may not, however, be without instruction to the reader. During the aforesaid twelve months, there were 4189 suicides, of which 1028 were women; 8605 accidental deaths, and 1325 sudden deaths, but from natural causes. The crimes proved were—assassination, 202; murder, 95 (I confess not to know the difference between the two); poisoning, 30; parricide, 13; infanticide, 190; wounds, followed by death, without intent, 76; other serious blows and wounds, 62; blows and wounds *causes un descendant*, 54; rebellion, or serious violence towards functionaries, 23; rape, or assault with intent on adults, 181; rape, or assault with intent on children, 650; false witness and subornation, 45; false money, 38; various forgeries, 499; robberies, 1886; incendiaries, 206; fraudulent bankruptcies, 117; and other crimes, 148; total, 4535. The punishments awarded in 1856 were, death, 46, of whom 17 were executed; hard labour for life, 248; hard labour for stated periods, 1051; solitary confinement, 971; banishment, 1; imprisonment, 2221; fined, 6; children sent to penitentiaries, 24; total, 4568. There is a discrepancy between these two totals, which may probably arise from rest being left from the preceding year. I now pass to the second order of crime, or misdemeanours—*délits*. The total number accused in 1856 was 225,561, of whom 21,737 were acquitted, or, being children, were sent to their parents; 89,513 imprisoned, and 114,281 were fined. The category of crime is as follows, leaving aside the *acquittals*:—Escaped convicts, or from surveillance, 3896; vagabondage, 6183; mendicity, 4721; rebellion, 2481; outrages and violence towards public functionaries, 6665; offences to religion and outrages towards its ministers, 122; voluntary blows and wounds, 10,565; offences against decency, 2358; defamation, insults, and clamorous denunciations, 3297; simple theft, 36,848; simple bankruptcy, 594; cheating, 2519; abuse of confidence, 2609; deception as to quality of goods sold, false weights and measures, 10,789; destruction of crops, trees, enclosures, and animals, 1143; political offences,

518; hawking and distribution of printed matter without authority, 176; unlicensed opening of wine and coffee shops, 392; manufacture and possession of arms and powder, 392; violation of game-laws, 20,843; penal offences and marauding, 951; smuggling, 2389; using postage-stamps that have already served, 3970; other postal offences, 152; offences against forest laws, 42,688; offences against carrying laws, 1836; other offences unspecified, 8112.

The observations in a previous number as to the ignorance of English by the police authorities who undertake the office of censor of English papers have borne good fruits. The *Leader* was not stopped in the post last week.

GERMANY.

(From our own Correspondent.)

September 23.

LAST week I reported warnings, stoppages, and confiscations of journals, this week I have to report two more confiscations, viz. that of the Prussian journals, *Volk-Zeitung* and *National-Zeitung*; the first for His Majesty—*wegen Verleumdung der Ehrfurcht gegen den König* (literally for a breach of the reverence due to the King), the second without any reason given by the police, but it is presumed in consequence of an article headed "No Co-Regency." The editor mournfully informs his subscribers, who, besides being deprived of the news of the day, lose their money, that no grounds were stated for the confiscation, nor did the authorities condescend to serve him with a written notification, which is evidence that a new system of repression has been introduced, because formerly a written statement of the reasons for the confiscation used to be given, as likewise extracts from the law which had been infringed. The question which the *National-Zeitung* ventured to discuss is that which forms the chief topic of conversation, not only in Prussia, but in all Germany, namely, whether the Prince of Prussia should govern as sole Regent, or in conjunction with the Court party, who, at present, under the pretence that the King is only temporarily diseased, are ruling the country in his name with all the tyranny of irresponsible despotic power. The King has hitherto borne all the blame, but it is evident that what is now being done does not proceed from him. The Liberals naturally long to see the Prince sole regent, trusting that a change of men will produce a change of measures; their hopes, however, have been lately considerably damped by a speech addressed by the Prince to the Mayor of Breslau, in the course of which he said that the ideas current in 1848, and the dangers attendant upon them, had not been eradicated, but were merely held in check, and that it behoved them (the authorities) to be always on their guard. In this the Prince is perfectly right, and all Germany, France, and Italy know it, but if he imagines that any further measures of repression will tend to soften men's minds towards his class, he will discover his error too late to repent. The Liberal journals appear dismayed at these sentiments of the Prince of Prussia; but they ought to remember that their hopes were founded upon his silence, not upon his words. "Ognuno vede quel che tu pari, pochi sentono quel che tu sei," says Machiavelli to Lorenzo de Medici, and who knows but that princes now-a-days follow his precepts? and so their subjects discover that "parere, e non essere, è come filare a non tessere." A letter in the *Cologne Gazette*, written by an eminent lawyer, has created some little sensation. After laying down the established laws which are acknowledged to regulate the succession in monarchical States, the writer quotes the 56th Article of the Prussian Constitution, which runs to this effect:—"If the king be an infant, or otherwise incapable of governing, then the next adult heir to the throne becomes regent. He has to convolve the Chambers, who, in general assembly, will confirm the regency." The writer then proceeds to maintain that according to this article the present position of the Prince is altogether unconstitutional, for as it is notorious that the King has been suffering from an affection of the brain, which his physicians have declared unfit him to attend to State affairs, it follows that by the article of the Constitution quoted above, the government devolves upon the Prince as a matter of course, therefore the Commission which invests him with power from one period to another is of itself null and void. The Prince is acting upon unconstitutional powers, and the people are not bound to obey him; and in conclusion he says:—"If I were now Ober Procurator (high sheriff), as I was at one time, I would not execute a sentence of death signed by the Prince, because as Regent he has not acquired that prerogative, and as Plenipotentiary he could not possess a power appertaining solely to the Crown. What is then to be done?" he finally asks. What ought to have been done at first: the proclamation of the Regency. If any high sheriff should at present exist in Prussia as bold as this gentleman is in word, his refusal to execute a sentence signed by either of the present incompetent powers would give rise to singular complications.

The last programme of the Breslau Committee for independence at elections compares in a rather jumbling style the relative position of Austria and Prussia in their struggle for supremacy among the German States. After referring to the advantages which Austria derived by her conduct during the Russian war, it goes on to say that Austria can never become more than what it is as long as the people are dumb. This is said in the face of the confiscations of the press that are taking place daily. In Austria it is said that Bruck, the Liberal Minister, was opposed to the introduction of a constitution of any kind for the people of Austria, because the international disputes arising therefrom would have crushed every sensible administration. There is truth in this view of the matter. A representative assembly is altogether impossible in Austria; for at a universal or imperial parliament the scenes of 1848 would undoubtedly be enacted again; each nation would strive to gain the upper hand, and in the quarrel the rights of all would perish. The people of Prussia, on the other hand, are of one race, one language, and Prussia is a constitutional State. It is, indeed, true that the Parliament of Prussia, as constituted hitherto, is not the best suited for such a position, nor is the Opposition what it ought to be to make an epoch in Germany. A Parliament that does not fear the consequences of criticism is the only one that would instil respect into Germans, that exclusively criticising and philosophical people (outwardly the most humble, and inwardly the most conceited people in the world). Independent and fearless men are required to render our representative assembly what it ought to be—the first in Germany. What can be expected from a Parliament that dared not venture to discuss the Regency question? It cannot possibly gain the esteem of Germany. But as any native of Saxony, Bavaria, or Swabia, whether he would not gladly acknowledge the supremacy of Prussia if she would help them to freedom of the press, trial by jury, the right of meeting in public to discuss political questions, &c., and the right to watch over and take account of the expenditure of the public money, and which protected the nationality throughout the length and breadth of the land, Prussia would occupy a nobler place among the European States, because, whatever might befall, she would be seconded by the millions of Germany united. It therefore becomes the duty of every Prussian who has the greatness of his country at heart, it is the duty of every Liberal who really prefers United Germany to everything else, to see that the Lower Chamber be so constituted as to deserve the position she seeks to occupy.

The *Vienna Zeitung*, in reply to certain charges brought against Austria by the *Partie*, contains an article which, from its style and tone, looks like a programme of Austrian policy. Austria, (says the *Vienna Zeitung*), is not the dictator at Constantinople, but resolutely holds fast to the principles which Europe has by treaty laid down for the maintenance of the integrity and independence of the Ottoman Empire. She is opposed to the endeavours which secretly and openly, by force or treachery, threaten to undermine that empire. She assists the Porte with her counsels and encourages that country to fulfil its solemn obligations, and she presses for the accomplishment of those obligations without connecting herself with those who make the same demands, but at the same time take every means in their power to render their fulfilment impossible.

Austria does not monopolise the navigation of the Danube, but, in accordance with the resolutions of the Vienna Congress and in unison with the Convention of Paris, has opened it up, and opposes her sovereignty and supremacy only to those who are striving to subject the signification and rights of treaties as well as the rights of Europe to a dictatorial will. Austria seeks not to supplant the protectorate of Russia by one of her own in the Danubian Principalities, but she cannot comprehend the collective protectorate in the sense that would rend the ties which unite those countries to the Porte; she does not deceive herself as to the nature and character of the organisation which the Principalities have received; but she has adopted the compromise which has led to the present state of affairs, and she will continue to protect this to the utmost of her power in contradistinction to those who appear to have waited for its accomplishment to overthrow it by means of revolutionary violence. Austria seeks not to reign supreme in Italy, but she defends her legitimate influence upon the fate of the peninsula by the respect she shows to the dignity and independence of the Governments, and by carefully fostering friendly relations with them. She employs this influence in the interchange of opinions upon subjects connected with the Government of the country, but she does not enforce her views nor accompany them with coercive measures. She encourages reforms but does not excite revolutionary passions to attain to power and wealth by their aid.

Austria does not compel the fortresses of the Germanic Confederation to receive war garrisons in times of peace, she does not reign supreme in Frankfort, she does not break down the gates of the Customs Union, she does not strive to reduce Central Europe under her sway, but she maintains the laws of the Confederation and obeys them; she regards every member of that Con-

federation as her equal in rank, and feels that in that very equality lies the best guarantee for the continuance of that great Union of States which forms the core of Europe, and which it is the first and greatest duty of every member to maintain.

The policy of Austria is not one of aggression, no policy of conquest, no policy of everlasting disturbances, no policy of armed peace. Europe is well aware of this and does not make Austria responsible for the fact that those international relations have not been restored which have maintained the peace of Europe for nearly forty years.

What Austria wants is social order, the independence of nations, the faithful and conscientious observance of treaties, the maintenance of territorial boundaries which have been sanctioned by existing treaties and which form the conditions of the balance of power in Europe. Austria seeks no fresh acquisitions, but she seeks to defend her ancient possessions, and to protect her rightful interests.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

The visit of Prince Napoleon to Algeria, which was to have taken place on the 24th September, has been adjourned to the end of October. The Prince is desirous, before leaving, of settling the great questions now pending relative to the organisation of the colony.

The Imperial Government has yielded to the outcry of Protectionists raised at the rumoured intentions of Prince Napoleon to introduce free trade, and has publicly promised that nothing is to be altered in the present state of things.

The Emperor of the French will return to St. Cloud on the 28th, and start for the camp at Chalons on the 30th instant.

Marshal Canrobert is not, as was reported, to be married to the Duchess de Sotomayor, but to the daughter of an ironmaster in the Haute Marne.

The new railway from Paris to Vincennes, which is of great importance in a military point of view, is being completed with the utmost despatch.

The *Moniteur* has published a quasi-official statement of the results of the Chinese expedition as contained in the treaty with China. It concludes by saying that the happy results may be attributed to the good understanding between England and France, and the bravery of their sailors and soldiers. The Emperor has marked his approbation of the manner in which Baron Gros discharged his task by appointing him to a seat in the Senate.

The *Moniteur de l'Armée* describes the preparatory steps already taken for the French, or rather French and Spanish, expedition against Cochin-China. The French had always this more at heart than the war against China itself.

Intelligence from Algiers states, that rumours having circulated that agitation prevailed at Oran, the Government had published a contradiction; also that accounts from Oran of the evening of the 16th announced that all was tranquil.

TURKEY.

A letter from Ragusa speaks of the constant increase of Russian influence and prestige with the Slavonian subjects of Turkey, who cease not, it says, to turn their eyes to St. Petersburg as to a new Jerusalem. In the Herzegovina and in Bosnia Russian agents do all they can to maintain and augment this tendency.

RUSSIA.

St. Petersburg journals announce a "decisive defeat" of Schamyl. According to them, on the 2nd ult., a large detachment of his forces attacked a Russian column in the gorge of Acho, but was repulsed with considerable loss; whereupon Schamyl, with a part of his troops, resolved to make a diversion at Wladikavkaz. He there found a column under General Mischchanko, who manoeuvred to entice him into the place, and then, dividing his force into two columns, attacked him on the right and left, and routed him with loss. This engagement took place on the 11th ult.

The *Czas* confirms the report of there having been agrarian disturbances in the interior of Russia. Many noble families have quitted their country seats and are gone to the neighbouring towns, where they are safe from the violence of the serfs. The emancipation of the peasants makes no progress in Volhynia, Podolia, and the Ukraine—those provinces where the impatience of the people to get rid of their yoke is the greatest. The works on the branch line between the Prussian Eastern and the St. Petersburg-Warsaw railroads are at a standstill.

SPAIN.

The elections for the new Cortes are to take place in October. The state of siege in Catalonia, on General Dulce's report, is immediately to be raised. The first law to be proposed by Government will be a new, extremely liberal, law on the press.

From Madrid we learn that the civil governor of the town had given orders for the seizure of some clandestine manufactories of gunpowder, which had been discovered at Alcazar de San Juan. The garrison of Cuba had been augmented by three thousand men.

The Madrid journals of the 17th inst. express the opinion that the new Cortes will be Progressist, and therefore hostile to O'Donnell's Cabinet; others declare that they will virtually be Constituent Cortes. It was said that the expedition against the Riff pirates is to be postponed to the spring; but that the Government proposes to act energetically against Mexico.

AUSTRIA.

The Austrian Government has resolved to found a semi-official Italian newspaper at Milan, charged with defending its policy, to be called the *Gazeta Italiana*. Hitherto that task was confided to the *Gazeta di Milano*, and other smaller journals in the Lombardo-Venetian States, which all preserved a local character, and had only a local circulation.

Letters from Vienna state that Austria thinks of raising a loan in London to the amount of ten millions sterling, and that a reduction of the military establishment is to take place.

SWITZERLAND.

The Federal Council calls the attention of the different chambers of commerce to the opening of the Chinese ports, and urges them to make proposals in the interest of Swiss commerce.

PIEDMONT.

A letter from Turin of the 15th states that General della Marmora, Minister of War, after passing the garnison in grand review, left that place to visit Nice, Spezzia, and the district of Liguria.

SARDINIA.

The *Moniteur* of Tuesday adopts the statement of the Austrian Government having given its attention to the question of the use of Villafranca by the Russians, attaches little importance to it, and that the exchange of diplomatic notes to which it was expected to give rise will not take place.

GREECE.

The Queen-Regent has signed a decree for the re-establishment of the ancient Olympic games. They are to be held at Athens, in the ancient Stadium, which is still in a very perfect state of preservation, and requires very little more than a good cleaning out. The "Olympiaka," which are to take place on all the Sundays in the month of October, 1859, will be a great improvement on those which were celebrated two thousand years ago. There will be wrestling, boxing, throwing the quoit, racing, dancing, music, and singing, as in *olden* times, but there will also be prizes given for works of art, agricultural produce, and manufactures.

PRUSSIA.

In reference to the Regency, the negotiations are settled between the Queen and the Prince of Prussia; the former withdraws her pretensions to the Regency, and the latter is to assume the title of co-Regent, but with unlimited powers, and perfectly independent in his regal capacity.

The Chambers are to be convoked in October.

Prince Albrecht left Berlin on the 18th for Gotha. The Duke of Cambridge had arrived at Berlin from Mecklenburg, and alighted at the British Embassy.

Galignani says that "the King has signed the order which definitely regulates the government. The order will not, however, be published officially until after the return of the Prince of Prussia from Hanover and Warsaw."

HOLLAND.

The session of the States-General was opened at the Hague by the King of Holland in person on the 20th. In his address his Majesty described the country to be in a prosperous state—the public revenues flourishing—the harvest most abundant—the finances of the country in a very favourable condition. Among other measures to be laid before the States would be one to put an end to slavery in the Dutch dominions.

PORTUGAL.

Prince George of Saxony has arrived at Lisbon. Foreign flour and cereals are admitted into the Portuguese northern ports.

EGYPT.

The concession for laying down the submarine telegraph to Alexandria has been definitely agreed by firm to Mr. Gisbore, who represents an English company with a capital of 800,000L. The line will start from Cape Helles, pass by the islands of Chios and Candia, and will have one branch line on Smyrna, another on Beyrouth, and a third on Malta and Corfu, uniting with Great Britain. The Elba is immediately to bring the cable from England, and Captain Spratt of the Medins steamer, now at Smyrna, is to be charged with the task of superintending the laying of it down.

WEST INDIES.

CUBA.

A WASHINGTON telegram says:—"Mr. H. B. Bebbets, one of the earliest submarine telegraphic cable projectors, is here, preparatory to proceeding to Madrid to consume a privilege granted by the Captain-General of Cuba for laying a cable from Cuba to Florida."

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—We have little to record this week. Her Majesty continues to enjoy the quiet of her Highland residence: while the Prince of Wales and the Prince Consort go out daily grouse-shooting and deer-stalking. On the 29th her Majesty gave a ball in the new ballroom. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent was present, and about fifty of the nobility and gentry were invited.

Lord DERRY'S STUD.—Some weeks ago Lord Derby, having found that his time was so entirely engrossed by official and Parliamentary business that he was unable to attend to his racing affairs, and seldom or never able to go and see his horses run, resolved (for the present at least) to retire from the turf, and he accordingly instructed Messrs. Tattersall to advertise for sale a large proportion of his stud, including all the horses now in training, or about to be put in training for their engagements. In accordance with the advertised announcement, the "entire stud of a nobleman" was put up to public auction by the Messrs. Tattersall at Doncaster on Saturday last. The sale excited much curiosity. The "lion" of the sale was Toxophilite; his coat shone like satin, and he seemed full of muscle. Mr. Payne made the first offer, and bid 1000 guineas for him, from this he was run up to 2500, when the hammer fell. Mr. Payne, however, was merely acting for Lord Derby, and the horse was bought in. The reserve price fixed upon him was 3000 guineas, and considering the value of his engagements, which, with health, he seems certain to win, too high a price was not set upon him. Twelve horses only were sold, the highest price realised being for Tom Bowline (a brown yearling colt by the Flying Dutchman), he fetched 700 guineas. Some very severe remarks have been made on this sale by the *Times* and other journals in consequence of the best horses having been reserved or bought in by his lordship.

MR. TOWNSSEND, M.P.—Mr. J. Townsend (strictly speaking, still one of the members for Greenwich) is performing during the present week at the Theatre Royal, Margate. Mr. Townsend attracted crowded houses last week at Gravesend, where he delivered a farewell address on Friday night. After leaving Margate Mr. Townsend will proceed to the north of England, where he has theatrical engagements until Christmas.—*Globe*.

ROYAL CONVERT.—According to intelligence received from the Indian seas by the last mail, a son of the King of Cambodia has been converted to the church of Rome. Cambodia, Cochinchina, and Tonquin are the three great divisions of the empire of Annam.

THE WEDDON CONTRACTS.—The Royal Commissioners are now inquiring into the clothing department of the army. The witnesses who as yet have been examined are those that have fulfilled Government contracts for the Weddon establishment. As might have been expected, they deny all knowledge of corrupt practices at Weddon, yet their answers to one or two questions have been not a little singular.

THE EISTEDDFOD.—The bards of Wales have held their "great bardic meeting" at Llangollen. Prizes, in the shape of money and medals, were awarded to the successful writers of poems and essay. These meetings do much to preserve the Welsh national spirit.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—A rumour appeared some weeks since in one of our weekly contemporaries, to the effect that Lord Ward would not open her Majesty's Theatre next season, the completion and success of the new Royal Italian Opera House rendering the rivalry a matter of discouraging difficulty. There now appears to be good foundation for the report: her Majesty's Theatre is advertised to be let on lease.—*Globe*.

THE ATLANTIC CABLE.—The Atlantic Telegraph Company have consulted Mr. Varley, the electrician, as to the present state of their cable. Mr. Varley tested the cable, and was able to discover that the defect which prevents the transmission of signals is so near the English coast as to be within 245 or 300 miles of Valencia. He also has discovered that the cable has not parted, the proof of which is that the copper wire of the cable remains continuous, and faint signals are received from Newfoundland. He speaks of "another and more distant land," the locality of which he cannot estimate without going to Newfoundland. Mr. Varley thinks it not altogether impossible that some intelligible signals may yet be received through the cable.

DEMOCRATIC MEETING.—On Thursday night, a number of English and French democrats assembled to commemorate the establishment of the Republic, and the overthrow of monarchy in 1792. Dr. Simon Bernard presided, but both he and M. Félix Pyat, the principal orator of the night, spoke in French, so that the majority of the audience could not understand them. M. Pyat depicted the present state of France in very dark colours. A Mr. Mackie attributed the failure of the first French revolution to the murder of the "immortal" Robespierre by the middle classes, and expressed his distrust of the leaders of the revolution of '48—Lamartine, Louis Blanc, and Ledru Rollin. According to the speaker, Louis Blanc ought to have shot Lamartine. The meeting did not sympathise with Mr. Mackie's views.

VICTOR HUGO. A new volume of poems by this distinguished author is said to be on the eve of completion. It is to be entitled, *Les Petites Epopées*. The copyright

of the first edition has been disposed of to a Parisian firm for a very handsome sum. In the course of next year it is expected that M. Hugo's long-talked-of romance, to be entitled *Les Misérables*, will be finished. M. Hugo's two sons, who share their father's exile in Guernsey, are both engaged in literary pursuits—the younger on a French translation of Shakespeare, whose poems he has already translated with some success. The first message sent from Jersey to Guernsey by the submarine telegraph laid down a few days ago was a greeting to the poet from his Jersey friends. M. Hugo transmitted in reply a verse from his *Châtiments*.

WILLS.—The will of Sir Henry Willock was proved on the 3rd inst. by his nephew and brother-in-law. Power reserved to Admiral John Rivett-Carnac, also the brother-in-law, and other executors. Personality sworn under 40,000*l.* He has bequeathed to Lady Willock his jewellery, the sapphires set in gold with diamonds and rings given to him by the Emperor Nicholas of Russia and the Prince Royal of Persia; also bequests to Lady Willock a legacy of 12,000*l.* and a residence; the residue he leaves amongst his children.—The will of Paulet Henry St. John Mildmay, Esq., of Haslegrave House, Somerset, was proved by his brother and executors. He has bequeathed to his brother his books, pictures, and furniture (except plate, which is the property of his mother), and has left him all his real estates; the residue of personalty to his widow.—Miss Emma Williams, of Southsea, has bequeathed to the Welsh School, late of Gray's-inn-road, now of Ashford, Middlesex, a legacy of 500*l.*; and a like sum of 500*l.* to poor old women, natives of Holywell, who may be past or unequal to labour, the interest to be distributed by the minister and others deputed; 200*l.* to the Portsmouth and Portsea Dispensary; 200*l.* to the Eye and Ear Infirmary; 200*l.* to the Portsmouth and Portsea Seamen and Marines Orphan School; and 100*l.* to the Portsmouth, Portsea, and Gosport Penitentiary.

CRINOLINE DENOUNCED.—At a religious meeting held at Kingbridge last week, the Rev. H. Marriott took the opportunity of stating his opinion on ladies' fashions. He said all their time and energies seemed devoted to that one purpose of decorating their frail bodies that soon would require nothing but a winding-sheet. He regretted the extreme folly of the English women that prompted them to copy the dress of the French Empress. He also touched upon the question of bonnets, and said that the Scriptures told them that long hair was given to woman for an ornament, but that the head ought to be covered. This, however, according to the present fashion, they appeared to have entirely forgotten, as they wore now no covering for the head. He hoped that his hints would be received and acted upon. If they could only hear what the men said of present fashions behind their backs they would abandon them. The ladies present appeared to be very indignant at these remarks, but there was a slight applause from the gentlemen.

THE CHAPTER-HOUSE AT YORK CATHEDRAL.—One of the finest and most unique parts of York Cathedral is its well-known Chapter-house. Within the last few years the internal parts of this portion of the sacred edifice have undergone reparation and beautifying; but a good deal of the outside is in a state of decay. In order that the latter may be properly restored the Hon. and Rev. Augustus Duncombe, the recently appointed Dean of York, has just obtained leave of the Chapter to restore it at his own expense, which is estimated at 1000*l.*

THE FOR OF THE TELEGRAPH.—The renowned "Irish patriot," John Mitchell, who painted ardently for "a southern plantation of fat negroes," in his *Southern Citizen*, calls the Atlantic cable "the thrice accursed telegraph," and says:—"To us the most exhilarating circumstance connected with the great event of the age is that it can easily be ruined." No doubt it is a great terror to rogues. But as John will not be likely to flee to Great Britain when he wishes a second escape from justice, we do not see why he should entertain such a bitter hatred for the telegraph.—*Detroit Daily Advertiser*.

GUERNSEY LAW.—A respectable man, named Aubin, was knocked down and robbed in Jersey last week, and died through the injuries he had sustained. Persons believed to be concerned in the outrage fled to Guernsey. The Jersey police followed them, but found after they arrived there that the Guernsey authorities had no power, by the laws of the island, to permit the suspected persons to be arrested. The authorities recommended that the suspected persons should be enticed on board a steam packet, and then captured. This could not be done, and thus justice was defeated.

BATHERS AND DECENCY.—The Correctional Tribunal at Bruges has sentenced two of the foreign gentlemen arrested at Ostend on the charge of bathing without costume to the minimum fine of 16 francs, and a proprietor of bathing machines for complicity in the same offence to a month's imprisonment.

HUMBOLDT'S BIRTHDAY.—Alexander von Humboldt has just celebrated at Berlin the 91st anniversary of his birthday, in the enjoyment of full health both of body and intellect. He has just finished his celebrated work, the *Cosmos*. Congratulations have poured in on him from all classes of society. Among the persons who visited him were the Princess Frederick William and her

brother Prince Alfred, who came from Potsdam for that purpose. He himself is said to be of opinion that he will die next spring, just after having completed the last of the tasks he has undertaken. But his friends who observe him speak differently, and are bold enough to predict that this time he will prove to be altogether in error, and that a very different celebration from that which he anticipates will next year take place in his house.

THE BEARER OF THE CHINESE TREATY.—The Hon. Frederick W. A. Bruce, brother of his Excellency the Earl of Elgin, arrived in town on Saturday, from Marseilles and China. Immediately after his arrival he waited on the Under-Secretary of State, at the Foreign-office, and had an interview. A few hours later Mr. Bruce left town for Knowsley-park, Lancashire, to visit the Earl of Derby, who was expected there from Bal-moral.

ACCIDENT TO A UNITED STATES MAIL-STEAMER.—The steam ship Ariel, from New York to Bremen, on making her way to Southampton, ran ashore on the Hampshire coast, at a place called Stone Point, on Friday night. There she lay till Saturday night, when by the aid of several tugs and lighters she got afloat, and left for Bremen.

THE PITMEN IN THE NORTH.—A great meeting of the pitmen of Northumberland and Durham was held on Saturday, for the purpose of reviving the Pitmen's Union, a once powerful organisation. The grievances complained of were the track system, the length of time the boys were engaged in the pit, and an unfair system of weights. It was stated that the employers had given notice that, unless the men would submit to a reduction of 15 per cent., they would close all the pits. It was also resolved to revive the union; to procure from the employers a proper and legal contract; to establish a law fund; to engage the best legal advice and assistance, to ensure the miners full justice under such contract. The meeting was very orderly, and the language of the speakers moderate.

THE BISHOP OF WINCHESTER ON THE CONFESIONAL.—The Bishop is now engaged in his triennial visitation to the clergy of his diocese. He delivered his charge at Guildford on Monday. It is a very elaborate document, and especially strong in its denunciations of private confessional. He contended that the language of the formularies gave no sanction to private confession, while by the homilies it was expressly condemned. He believed that the practice was attended with the greatest danger, that it had been perverted to the vilest purposes, and that it was as repugnant to the spirit of the Gospel, as it was to the manly common-sense and independent mind of the great mass of the English people.

THE REPORT OF PLAGUE.—A report from French physicians resident in the East has been received in Paris. It says that the epidemic which began at Benghazi has not increased to an extent which should inspire alarm in Europe, and that the measures taken to combat it are, generally speaking, good. The doctors agree that the epidemic is not the plague, only a malignant kind of typhus.

CURIST'S HOSPITAL.—On Tuesday, being St. Matthew's day, the Lord Mayor, aldermen, and sheriffs, attended divine service at Christchurch, Newgate-street, when the Rev. Edwin Pattenden, head-master of Boston school, and lately a pupil of Christ's Hospital, preached. The Lord Mayor and the authorities then adjourned to the great hall. His Lordship, having taken the chair, the orations were proceeded with. A prologue having been delivered by Theophilus Mitchell, First Grecian, who is proceeding to Magdalen-hall, Oxford, the following orations and recitations were then given. Great credit was due to the whole of the scholars for the manner in which they acquitted themselves:—Greek oration, A. B. Rogers, Fourth Grecian; English oration, F. A. Hanbury, Second Grecian, mathematical medalist, 1858; Latin oration, A. Tucker, Third Grecian, classical medalist, 1858; Greek Iambics, H. C. Bowker, Fifth Grecian, mathematical medalist, 1857, Pitt Club scholar, 1858; Latin Hexameters, M. S. Howell, Sixth Grecian. Latin Alcaics, A. H. A. Poulton, Seventh Grecian. Greek Sapphics, M. S. Howell, English Poem, A. H. A. Poulton. The proceedings of the day terminated by the boys, upwards of eight hundred in number, singing the national anthem, accompanied by the excellent organ that has been erected in the hall.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—For several weeks past the return of the Registrar-General has presented a satisfactory state of the health of the metropolis. The return for last week is again favourable, showing a mortality under the ordinary average. Diarrhoea, generally so prevalent at this period, exhibits a further decrease. The total deaths from scarlatina, however, are greatly increasing. The total deaths for the last week were 1046, and births 1641. Dr. Lethaby, also, reports very favourably of the health of the City.

THE LATE MR. WEIR.—The mortal remains of the late Mr. Weir were interred on Tuesday in the family vault, at the Kensal-green Cemetery. The funeral was conducted in a strictly private manner, but the last rites were attended by a large number of friends of the deceased, who had assembled at the cemetery to pay the last tribute of respect to one so worthy of their esteem.

DISPUTE WITH THE METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.—A conflict seems imminent between the parochial authorities of St. Giles's, Camberwell, and the Metropolitan Board of Works. The latter makes a claim of upwards of 20,000/- upon the parish for a sewers rate, which the parish resists on the ground that only an insignificant sum has been spent on sewerage works in St. Giles's. There is a large debt incurred for sewerage works, and the Board says it is compelled to levy the amount equally on all the districts. A meeting of the parishioners resolved to contest the claim in a court of law, and, if necessary, before Parliament.

SCOTTISH UNIVERSITIES.—The *Aberdeen Herald* understands that the University Commissioners have already had several meetings in Edinburgh, chiefly for the purpose of arranging their course of procedure. According to this information, all their sittings will be in Edinburgh, and their inquiries will be conducted rather by documentary than oral communication. The Lord Justice Clerk has been appointed chairman, and will as such have a deliberative and casting vote.

GEOLGY.—The geological museum of the late Mr. Hugh Miller has been purchased by the Government for 5000/. In addition to this sum, another of about 600/-, subscribed all over the country, with a view to the purchase of the collection, will be handed to Mr. Miller's widow. The collection will remain in the Edinburgh Museum.

DRAINAGE OF THE METROPOLIS.—Mr. G. P. Bidder, in a letter to the Metropolitan Board of Works, defends that scheme for the main drainage of the metropolis which the Board has sanctioned. This he does in answer to a letter written by the Government referees. Mr. Bidder is of opinion that the course recently taken by the Board has saved the public from additional expenses. He says the original conclusions to which he and his colleagues came have been amply confirmed by subsequent examination and discussion. "Your Board may proceed," says he, "with the execution of the plan before them without any undue anxiety as to the results."

REPRESENTATION OF GUILDFORD.—Some electors of Guildford, anxious for the settlement of the contest for the representation of their borough, have received an intimation that new writ will not be issued until the meeting of Parliament. The friends of both candidates (Mr. Onslow, Liberal, and Mr. Evelyn, Conservative) have therefore determined to fight a preliminary battle on the revision of the borough lists. At present it seems very doubtful which party would be successful if an election took place, the Conservatives and Liberals in the town being pretty nearly balanced. Mr. Campbell, who originally came forward under the auspices of Mr. Mangels, has retired.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.—The annual meetings began at Leeds on Wednesday, in a way which points to the public advantage and the success of the society. This is the twenty-eighth anniversary gathering of the association, and the attacks made upon it do not seem to have retarded its usefulness. The papers read at these meetings have, in later years, been of a highly practical character, and we believe that the papers to be read at Leeds will justify a still further eulogium of that kind.

MIDDLE CLASS EXAMINATIONS.—A meeting of the University Examination Society for the Midland districts, has been held at Birmingham, for the purpose of distributing the prizes to the successful candidates at the recent Oxford examinations. Lord Lyttleton, who presided, delivered an address, and then presented the certificates to the successful candidates. His Lordship compared the Oxford system of examination with that adopted at Cambridge, to the disadvantage of the former.

ENORMOUS DEPRECIATION.—The great Glengyle case in which the chief of the Macgregors claimed 98,000/- as compensation for fourteen acres of a Highland bog, has been settled by the Dean of Faculty with 650/- *North British Mail*.

MONUMENT TO HUGH MILLER AT CROMARTY.—After a careful examination of the various designs, the committee have entrusted the execution of the monument to be erected to Hugh Miller at Cromarty—which is to consist of a Grecian Doric column and statue— the statue to Mr. Handyside Ritchie, and the column to Mr. Thomas Watson, Edinburgh. *Witness.*

DISTINGUISHED SMUGGLER.—A correspondent of the *Independence Belge* writes from Ostend:—"On Saturday last, on the arrival of the steamer from London, the Custom-house officers, while examining the luggage of the passengers, conceived some suspicions of the amplitude of a crinoline worn by the Countess D— R—, who was accompanied by Major K—, both Russian subjects, and who landed at Ostend. The officers thought it their duty to repeat an examination made in the first instance with a delicacy which the position of the passengers justified. This led to the discovery of a great quantity of silks, neckerchiefs, and other articles of dress, amounting to the value of about 1200/. A *procès verbal* has been drawn up against the noble delinquents."

MR. ANDERSSON, THE TRAVELLER.—Intelligence has been received here from Mr. Charles Andersson (the author of "Lake Ngami"), who has undertaken to explore the Okavango country in the direction of the river Cunene. It appears that, after successfully prosecuting

several hundred miles of his journey, he was compelled to return, owing to the scarcity of water and the duplicity of his guides. Andersson, however, is a man of indomitable energy, and is still sanguine of ultimate success. According to the last advices, he was preparing for a third attempt to force his passage inland by a different route from any tried by him before.—*Cape Argus, August 12.*

REPRESENTATION OF GREENWICH.—On Thursday night a meeting of the electors of Greenwich was held, when Mr. Angerstein addressed the meeting. He declared himself in favour of an extended, but not universal suffrage. He did not think the ballot would do any harm, but it was un-English, and he would not pledge himself in favour of it, or of an unconditional abolition of church rates. He was ready to support Mr. Locke King's bill for conferring the franchise on 10/- householders in counties; he would not support a system of equal electoral districts. He was in favour of an extension of the suffrage to every occupier of premises rated wholly or in part to the relief of the poor. A resolution was proposed "that Mr. Angerstein's views were not explicit or liberal enough to entitle him to the confidence of the electors." An amendment in his favour was put and carried.

SIR JAMES BROOKE.—This distinguished Englishman will pay a visit to Liverpool next week, and on Monday evening he will appear on the platform of the Collegiate Institution at the annual meeting of the Church Missionary Society. In the afternoon he will be entertained in the Town-hall by the mayor.

SUICIDE.—Yesterday morning at Knightsbridge Barracks, James Powell, a private in the 1st Life Guards, cut his throat with a razor in so determined a manner that death instantly followed. The deceased had been in the infirmary of the barracks for some days previous, but his indisposition was only of a trifling nature. No cause as yet can be assigned for his committing suicide.

NEW ODD FELLOWS' HALL IN LIVERPOOL.—The Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows have erected a handsome new hall in Liverpool, which was formally inaugurated on Wednesday evening by a dinner, at which upwards of 300 persons were present.

FIRE.—About two o'clock yesterday morning, a fire broke out at a draper's in Frederick-place, Hampstead-road. The inmates managed to escape at the back of the house without injury. The engine arrived from Crown-street in about fifteen minutes. The flames were soon got under, but not before the whole of the contents of the shop were destroyed. The whole are insured.

AN ARABIAN MAGNATE.—The *Paris* says:—Abdullah Pasha, the new Scherif of Mecca, has arrived in the capital of Egypt from Constantinople in an Ottoman corvette. Abdullah Pasha succeeds his father, who died lately in Arabia. He enjoys the full confidence of the Sultan. The Scherifat of Mecca comprises the part of the Hedjaz which the Arabs call the Beled-el-Haram, or Sacred Country. The Scherif exercises a civil, military, and religious power; and, according to his character, he may do much good or evil. The Porte seems at present to wish to constitute the power of the new chief of the sacred country in a solid manner, for Abdullah Pasha is accompanied by a colonel of engineers, who is charged to examine into the state of the defences of Mecca, which are about to be repaired.

DIVINE WORSHIP AT THE TUILERIES.—The ceremony of divine worship at the Tuilleries is, in reality, one of the pleasant bits of dissipation of the Parisian week. The ceremony is one of full dress and opera-glasses; and when the entire audience, or congregation, are in their places, scented, polished, well-congregated—some contemplating their distant friends or remarkable strangers through their glasses, others discussing matters of interest in a subdued tone, and a select few carrying on very quiet, unostentatious, but unmistakable flirtations—then takes place an act of decided worship. The voice of an official announces the coming of their Imperial Majesties, and the august appearance is acknowledged with greater demonstration of respect than is awarded by the worshippers to the Lord of heaven and of earth. Exquisite music and a short sermon bring the ceremony to a satisfactory close.—*Athenaeum.*

ENCOUNTER WITH RATS IN A CHINESE HOUSE.—In my lodgment I had been anticipated by a populous colony of rats and mice. The size of these visitors was certainly monstrous, as their number was overwhelming; and there was no keeping them out during the night. The tricks they played, too, showed no little daring; and not inappropriately they have been designated "the cavalry of Ningpo." The dexterity with which they bounded from beam to rafter was surprising. They were equally expert in rattling over my furniture at pleasure, and they seemed to scour in regimental squads every nook and corner of the apartment. Their squeals of pleasure as they pitched into my provisions were truly amusing, and their screams of rage or pain as they pitched into each other were equally annoying. But it was not the least of nuisances, just as one was dropping off to sleep, to be aroused by having the face licked by their slimy tongues, or pawed by their cold extremities.—*Life in China*, by Rev. William C. Milne, M.A.

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL.—In our notice of this Institution, in reporting the surgical cases, we fell into a serious error, and stated them at 1800 instead of 18,000; and as regards the medical cases, at 2500, instead of 28,000. We may take the opportunity of adding, that patients are received at this excellent Hospital without any letter of recommendation, and are thus saved much suffering and loss of time. The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending Sept. 18 was—Medical, 686; surgical, 411; total, 1097, of which 409 were new cases.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Friday Night, September 24th.
FRANCE.

The expected alteration in the rate of discount at the Bank of France took place yesterday. It is now fixed at three per cent. No improvement on the Bourse occurred in consequence, showing that the effect of the measure, which, in fact, has been spoken of for several weeks, was anticipated.

The French garrison at Rome is to be reinforced by a detachment of cavalry and a battalion of Chasseurs. This makes that garrison a complete army-division, ready to take the field.

Prince Ghika has been killed, exactly in the way the late Duc d'Orléans perished, at the Rond-Point in the Champs Elysées. He was returning to Paris from a drive in the Bois de Boulogne, when the horses of his phaeton took fright; the coachman was thrown, and the Prince seized the reins, when he himself was flung head foremost, and was taken to a shop, but expired in a few minutes.

A French consul is to be appointed to Irkutsk, in Siberia, of which town the commerce is increasing rapidly. Merchants of Marseilles are preparing Chinese adventures.

PRUSSIA.

The accounts from Prussia are very contradictory. The King has as yet signed nothing. The *Hansard Gazette* goes the length of reporting an important change for the better in his health. The departure of the Prince of Prussia for Hanover has been delayed.

RUSSIA.

General Mouravieff Amourski is to be chargé d'affaires at Pekin.

THE BOYN HILL CONFESSOR.—This morning the commissioners appointed to inquire into the charges made against the Rev. Richard Temple West, M.A., Oxford, curate of Boyne Hill, met at the Town Hall, Maidenhead, for the purpose of prosecuting the investigation entrusted to them by the Bishop of Oxford's commission. Mr. Cripps, of the Oxford circuit, who appeared for the complainant, the Rev. John Shaw, rector of Stoke Pogis, proceeded to address the court. He said that the Rev. R. T. West had been accused, under the Church Discipline Act, of a violation of ecclesiastical rule in reference to confession, and cited the particular cases in which that rule had been infringed. At six o'clock this evening the commissioners had not come to any decision.

THE ALLEGED PICTURE FRAUDS.—This morning W. T. Barnes and Mrs. Barnes again attended before Alderman Wire to answer to the charge of conspiracy, the examination of which has been so often adjourned. Mr. Sleigh, for the prosecution, said he was able to state that Mr. Peter was in such a deplorable state that it was totally impossible to say when he would be able to attend. The Alderman said he must have evidence of that fact, as he had reason to believe that Mr. Peter was not only quite well, but he was within a few miles of London. Mr. Metcalfe, for the defence, said the medical testimony showed that Mr. Peter's bodily health was good, but that he was mentally incapacitated, and that any excitement might drive him to confirmed insanity. A witness said he saw Mr. Peter on the yesterday; he was then suffering from delirium, among which was that of fancying he saw devils on the walls. Mr. Metcalfe said he hoped his clients would not have to attend again, as the evidence was not worth the paper it was written upon. Mr. Sleigh remarked that Mr. Peter was subject to similar delusions about this time last year. The inquiry was adjourned for a week.

NORTH SEA SUBMARINE CABLE.—The William Cory, screw steamer, accompanied by a paddle tender, anchored within a mile of Dunwich, in Suffolk, at half-past four o'clock yesterday afternoon, having successfully laid the new submarine cable from Zandfort, on the Dutch coast. Should the weather be favourable, the cable was to be brought on shore this morning.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith. It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted, it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1858.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—DR. ARNOLD.

STANDARDS FOR THE REFORM BILL OF 1859.

WHATEVER may be the Reform Bill designed by Ministers for the session of 1859, it is not foreshadowed in the fragmentary projects that have been laid before the public through the columns of some of our contemporaries. It is impossible that the leaders of the Conservative party can have taken up the subject at all with any intention of trifling. If they do not intend to terminate their tenure of office by a political suicide more ludicrous than lamentable, they will not attempt to satisfy the want of public opinion by any paltry schemes for tinkering the present laws regulating the representation of the people. Any such notions would be unworthy even of a playhouse manager, who would foresee the danger of tantalising the public expectation with large announcements on the bills to put off the public expectation with some miserable farce or interlude. The party which has systematically opposed any changes in the statutes relating to the institutions of the country can only have consented to waive its resistance and to initiate its own school of Reform by a measure intended to bear the impress of statesmanship, and to justify a change of action by the elevation of the statesmanship. The storms of party have subsided; those circles who have swum by certain Liberal leaders, appear to have exhausted either their invention in the business of improvement, or their energy for action. The office of working statesmanship in the prosecution of Reform, therefore, is left vacant, and the statesmen who began life on the same side of the House with the representatives of the Tory party, who have heretofore clung together in public life, find themselves accidentally at the head of a nation no longer divided, and actually being called upon to take up the duty which others have suffered to lapse. We have never affected to regard the Tories as the enemies of their country, or of the constitution, though we have believed them not sufficiently to appreciate the true spirit of the constitution in leaning to the prerogative of the Crown, while the special safeguards of this country are to be found in those statutes which establish a concurrent power with the Crown, the Lords, and the Commons, down to the humblest burgess of the land. At present there are no Tories, but only the heirs of men who conscientiously inclined to the opinions designated by that epithet; the heirs, however, living in a different day, sharing larger experiences, and manifesting widely different sympathies. These circumstances alone mark a period so totally different from that of the last Reform Bill, that the measures taken up in the spirit of that old contest could only be a mistake; while an attempt to evade the supposed inconsistency, by bringing forward a neutral measure, would constitute a hoax in national statesmanship unprecedented for its meanness and its folly. The statesmen responsible for taking up the conduct of affairs at the present day for reconciling the inheritance of the Tory party with the requirements of

the age cannot, we say, intend any stratagem of that kind; and while we acknowledge the apparent difficulty and perplexity of the problem thrust before them, we cannot help doubting whether they fully perceive the opportunity presented to them by the striking difference of the time.

The mere outward aspect of English life is enough to justify the instinctive sense of Englishmen who have been heretofore reckoned as "Tories," that it demands altered fashions and an altered spirit. The last Reform Bill was passed in days when the very look of our streets was unlike the present; when London had but 1,655,000 men, women, and children, instead of the two millions and half which we now reckon ourselves. It is true that we had gas-lights in London, but in those days gas was not the universal light from Sydney to Toronto, and we did not find in every provincial town of the empire, whether from Glasgow to Bristol, or from Montreal to Melbourne, the same style of living, the same drawing-room, the same ships, the same "new police," the self-same way of going on, *mutatis mutandis*, as in the City or as in the West-end of our own metropolis. We had not in those days penny papers or omnibuses. Railways were still in embryo—no network replacing the old high-roads of the country. We had no large steamships, no weekly post with America, no penny post, no Rowland Hill for the whole civilised world. We had not adapted the screw to great merchant ships or the navy. We had no electric telegraphs. We still were without some of the newest inventions for multiplying the uses of commercial mediums of exchange. We had not expanded the uses of the banker's clearing-house. We had not discovered gold in California or gold in Victoria. We had not seen those enormous emigrations to the British colonies and to the United States which have bound those outlying countries to us by the very heartstrings of our population. We had had no Irish famine, a miserable peasantry still starved on con-acre, where now the word is almost forgotten, and Irishmen begin to rejoice, not in potatoes, but in an English style of wages. We had not then had free trade, which has not only made England the *entrepôt* for the commerce of the globe, but has given her the start of that commerce, has taught her farmers to forget distress, and has multiplied the population of the towns with a reflex influence on the rural of the population; insomuch that we have seen in England, and even in Ireland, agricultural labourers assisting in the trial of machinery. We had not then the immense development of newspapers and cheap literature. The Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, inaugurated in 1828 by Lord Brougham, did not begin to tell upon the country till some time after the old Reform Bill had passed. Since that time the *Cosmopolitan*, whose aged author has been felicitated on his ninety-first birthday by Prince Alfred has become a household book, purchasable at almost every railway station; and with this universal appropriation of the ideas definitively given to the age by this aggregate intellect, we have had a gradual improvement in the popular manners through all grades of society. Witness the order of the Exhibition of 1851—the million in the glass house; the way in which the mob kept the streets at the Wellington funeral, and at the celebration of Peace; and the actual enrolment of the working classes, during the latest demonstration at Leeds, to perform the duty of a guard whilst sovereignty passed along.

But this picture of the outward aspect of the people portrays changes far deeper, and going to the very stuff of the conscience. Such things happened in a former time as would now be impossible scandals. It was the suffering condition of the working-classes in 1842 which compelled an improvement in our imperial economy, with the effects that we have witnessed. But this wealthy country cannot, as it has shown in more recent days, tolerate sufferings amongst the poor which are regarded as natural calamities in other countries, and have been in our own in past days. It was the sufferings of the working-classes in 1828 which first prompted Mr. Canning to attempt a movement for the repeal of the corn-laws, and he then failed; but we have had the repeal, and when the famine broke out in Ireland, all England felt the necessity of aiding our brother men. Imperfect as our system may be in many respects, there is undoubtedly a better feeling between the different classes of society; landlords and employers generally admit larger responsibilities towards their working-people; witness the respect

paid to any claims on behalf of that class in Parliament; witness the anxiety to improve the dwellings of the poor, to provide parks for the people in London, Birmingham, Manchester, &c.; witness the efforts of individual employers to act with those that work under them—from Mr. Salt, of Saltaire, to Anne Marchioness of Londonderry; witness most especially the bearing of the Court and people to each other at Leeds. The fact is that, the period before the passing of the Reform Bill was a very bad school of politics. We English had lived under an aged king whose infirmities compelled a certain difference in the nation injurious to our political independence. Through various combinations, the Tories had been able to make their principles of prerogative dominant. They trampled on the native institutions of the country; their insolent domination taught them a bad *morale*, and they attempted to prevent discussion by an obscene insolence which provoked habitual retort and Radical coarseness. Our fathers of those days lived in a school of conflict and corruption; we have lived in a school of reform; and if our education is still incomplete, the spirit of the school is entirely regenerated, as compared with that before the Reform era. Any statesmen, therefore, who attempt to legislate for the people as they are now born and trained, undertake a task wholly different from that which the persevering Liberals accomplished in 1832.

It might be appropriate enough for the Liberals to think of re-editing their old bill of 1832, but if the Conservatives come into the field, if they are to place their works in that series of classics, they would degrade themselves by becoming mere editors of the Whig-Radical statesmen of 1832. Many of the difficulties which deterred them from Reform have disappeared; and if they have perplexities of their own, they do not confront the greatest obstacle which stood before the Liberal of that day; they have no Tory party arrayed against them; they have, on the contrary, political rivals who must agree if their bill be substantial enough, and a people only waiting to hail them with applause if they do their duty sincerely and diligently. The whole condition of the people removes the doubts which prevented Conservatives in those days from agreeing to political changes, and amongst the present political confederates of Lord Derby there are men who have learnt so much of the working-classes, in actual conference and co-operation with them, that their dread of almost any conceivable extension of the suffrage has been cured by the most practical treatment. We appeal to Cabinet Ministers themselves to testify to the truth of our remark. But these altered aspects of the time, while they remove many barriers to the action of Conservatives on the path of Reform, impose upon any Reform Ministry responsibilities entirely new. The statesmen in office have to bring forward a measure worthy of a people whose good order, industry, and intelligence have been proved beyond the shadow of a doubt. They have to submit provisions before a nation whose average intelligence has been elevated to a pitch perhaps unprecedented in the world. They have to enlarge constitutional statutes where already the basis is generous and liberal. They have, in a glorious constitution, to make an amendment which shall be a real improvement, not simply a tinkering, to warrant the use of a great name. They have, in short, to submit another bill in the series of our fundamental statutes worthy of the English people of the present day, and of the measures which have preceded it. Should the task be undertaken in a spirit congenial to its grandeur and its importance, the Conservatives may lead us another stage on the march of progress, while identifying their own principles with the growth of the nation, and immortalising themselves amongst the workmen who have, through successive ages, been allowed to lend a hand in building up the constitution of the country.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

We expect much from the meeting of the British Association now assembled at Leeds. This body, without demanding or receiving much assistance from Government, which rarely interferes with science but to bias or pervert it, as it rarely takes religion in hand without lessening and thwarting its beneficial influence, has already contributed very much to advance, and still more to diffuse, scientific information. It meets at a propitious time when the public attention is fixed on some important problems, the solution of which, or at

least information concerning them, may be expected from the Association. Having amongst its members men of the highest eminence in every walk of science, well acquainted with its most advanced conditions, they cannot fail in communicating their views to each other to throw much light on many subjects that require elucidation. In contradiction to the old saying which, in an extremely philosophic sense, as Mr. Faraday would admit, is strictly and undeniably true, new facts are continually coming into view. Journals may be said to live by recording them, but oftentimes they perplex hasty readers who must snatch their knowledge as they feed, run, or work. Even to journalists they are sometimes inexplicable, and the public looks to such bodies as the Association and their members to generalise and explain new phenomena. They not only increase the sum of knowledge, they bind up and preserve all the new information which is perpetually gathered. Annual meetings serving such purposes can scarcely be too highly prized, and the Association never met at a period when interesting subjects of science were more numerous, and when the public were more disposed than now to take an interest in its proceedings.

The Association has already told us what it has done to increase our knowledge of magnetism. On this point it wishes for another *quasi* Arctic expedition have not been complied with by the Government. The kindred subject of electricity, the actual bringing the Old World and the New into speaking communication by its means, and the temporary suspension of the intercourse after it has been fully established, are themes of surpassing interest. They will, no doubt, be satisfactorily treated by the historians and electricians of the Association. Many points in the past exertions yet require to be described, and many differences between contending men of science to be cleared up. Of much of the apparatus employed in laying the cable, and many of the instruments used in measuring the electricity and receiving the communication, the public are ignorant, and the Association will cause some disappointment if it do not provide a fuller and more correct account of this great marvel of 1857 than has yet appeared. We may expect, too, that the nature of electricity, now so widely employed in the arts, and of late used to effect the most extraordinary feats ever accomplished, will receive much attention from the Association. We look to it for such an explanation of the facts as will tend to connect phenomena, that seem distinct from space and time, with the general laws of the universe.

Of the visitor who flames nightly in the heavens, such as has not come to us for nearly half a century, this generation will expect from its scientific leaders some distinct account. They will wish to learn the past, the present, and the future of this interesting stranger. If there be not this year a new planet to be announced, the events of the past season immediately concern our welfare and are as worthy the attention of philosophers as that remarkable illustration of the prophetic spirit which science imparts to man.

One source of the success of the Association is in the union of men who have been studying apart each his own particular subject. By this means they make great acquisitions, and then, by meeting, the diversities of knowledge which have been separately gained are brought together and made in our pursuits and in our books, as in nature, one great whole. The comparative anatomist and the geologist come together, and the fossil animals which excite our wonder, when put together by the former, are restored by the latter to those rocks in which they were found embedded, and he writes what he believes to be their history. The chemist and the electrician commune with one another, and they may reduce the affinity of the one and the electricity of the other to one general law. Professor Owen intimates, in his inaugural discourse, that all these abstruse powers to which we give different names may probably be generalised into one. The entomologist and the ornithologist, with all the investigators of the animal kingdom, as they discuss together the peculiarities which each discovers, will agree that throughout one type is discernible. They seem likely to find this one type everywhere, and to extend the limits of life to everything which has motion and far beyond the myriads of living beings on the surface of the globe. So while each acts on the principle of division of labour, and steadily confines his researches to one object, the combined researches of all extend over all

nature and form as complete a transcript of creation as our present knowledge can supply.

Perhaps the most important subject on which the public may now look to such associations for information is society itself. Man has long had his place in natural history as one of the mammalia, and Cuvier and other naturalists have treated the development of society as a part of natural history. That man is the subject does not make it less worthy of the naturalist's investigations than the generation of mosses or the community of bees. At present, the complete diffusion of the family over the whole surface of the earth, and the communication which is everywhere taking place between all its members, has plainly so extended society as to obliterate many political distinctions and to carry it beyond the narrow constraints of old political systems. For subjects, the Queen has men of every faith, and every race, and every colour; and the negroes, to whom we substitute servitude for slavery—the Chinese, for whom our Government sanctions the purchase of women and ordains them a supply of opium—and the Hindus, whose strange worship our authorities properly respect, can no more be governed by the same rules than rabbits and foxes. One glittering magnet has lately equally attracted Asiatics, Europeans, Americans, and the aborigines of the Pacific islands, into the new continent of Australia, there to live together apparently in peace and under a government which will respect the peculiarities of each and all. It is not merely, as M. de Tocqueville and others have shown, that democracy is moulding all institutions to its wants; more than this, society, considered as a whole, is fast developing itself beyond the limits of each state, and by indispensable trade is levelling political barriers. If it have hitherto been considered as an artificial organisation beyond the naturalist's domain, like the manufacture of watches, its present development has generated a different opinion, and shown it rapidly ranging beyond the boundaries of all political systems, and carrying them after its new phases. Society, therefore, can no longer be considered a political contrivance. It is a great natural object destined, as man multiplies on the earth and excavates its surface, to influence or alter the physical condition of the globe. It can no longer with propriety be excluded from natural history any more than mineralogy and geology, or what we may perhaps be permitted to call the mental or spiritual qualities of the material world—electricity and magnetism.

To indicate from the past what are to be the future conditions of society, we must look, therefore, more to philosophers than politicians. Society has already grown beyond the arts of the latter, and at present no little mental confusion prevails because the former have not taken the appropriate task of investigating the phenomena of society into their hands. That its growth and organisation depend on the same general and natural laws as the seasons, is obvious from the influence these exert over the welfare of society, and from division of labour which grows from diversity of sex, capacity, age, climate, &c., common to the whole animal kingdom. It is neither creditable to natural philosophers nor beneficial to society that they should willingly divorce themselves from this great branch of creation, and hand it over, declining even to look at it, as beyond their sphere—taking less part than others in social affairs—to those who are too exclusively occupied by their own conceits and selfish advantages ever to study the works and laws of nature.

The Association devoted to the social sciences, which is to meet next month, wants the catholicity which is a chief merit of the British Association. It is defective by too narrowly limiting its inquiries and by being chiefly composed of two classes—lawyers and professional politicians—who are practically pledged to certain views of society and certain opinions of government, which prevent thorough investigation and bias all their conclusions. If society be a natural phenomenon, it can only be successfully studied in conjunction with all the surrounding objects. The success of individuals, which is the well-being of society, requires them to observe and know the facts and the laws of the material world. The farmer is incessantly urged to obtain a knowledge of vegetable and animal life and of the chemical action of soils and manures, in order to grow an abundance of corn and rear fine cattle at the smallest cost. The merchant is required to ascertain the products of different countries, the cost at which they are produced, and

the habits and wants of the people who produce them, in order to make commerce continually profitable. If these and all other practical workers must look to men of science for help and guidance in cultivating the land, in beginning and extending trade, in navigating ships, in constructing bridges and other buildings, in framing telegraphs, in selecting materials for dresses, in diffusing light, warmth, and air through dwellings, in fadling and working minerals, must they not also look to them to interpret every part of nature, and be guided by their interpretations? Moving in this direction—the path pointed out by Bacon and followed by Newton and all subsequent philosophers—we catch sight of a great and consistent generalisation such as philosophy loves to attain. We see in the facts of the material world a universal rule for all actions which can only increase our respect for all true scientific men. If they be for us the interpreters of the commands of nature, it must be our duty to guide our conduct by the facts with which their observations and studies are for ever making them and us acquainted.

THE LIVERPOOL BOROUGH BANK.

THE RECENT VERDICT.

We are enabled to redeem our promise of placing before the public a copious report of the speech of counsel, the evidence, and the Judge's charge to the jury, in the important case of Scott *v.* Dixon, which has excited so much comment and, we may add, consternation in the commercial circles.

From the commencement we were unable to understand the grounds on which the jury arrived at their verdict, and we are bound to say that, now we have carefully and dispassionately read and weighed all the facts that are accessible, our astonishment has become unbounded at the result. And we venture to predict that this feeling will be shared by all those who will take the trouble to read through the mass of information which is set forth in another part of our journal.

The case, recollect, against Mr. Dixon was, that he falsely, fraudulently, and deceitfully issued a certain document in order to induce a belief in the solvency of the bank.

We must commence our remarks from the period when Dixon joined the bank, he previously being a large shareholder, and continuing a large shareholder throughout. Without doubt there seems, up to this period, to have been great incapacity in the management previous to July, the period when Mr. Dixon first took an active part in the affairs of the bank. Mr. Dixon was one of the outside directors taking no pay, and, like the other outside directors, expressly forbidden to know or see the customers' accounts. The public well knew that this was the fact; they knew that the real management vested in the manager and the managing directors. We may here remark with reference to Mr. Smith, the manager, that, up to the present time, no one accuses Mr. Smith of anything beyond errors of judgment—not a suspicion is breathed against his honesty. When Mr. Dixon was associated in the nominal management, he had made repeated demands for reform in the system, which seem to have led to no result. It will also be observed that neither the outside directors nor their friends made use of the funds of the bank, or got any accommodation from the bank. Mr. Dixon was desired to draw up a report to be laid before the shareholders. He did so, and here let us inquire what is the essential difference between the report drawn up by Dixon and the report eventually issued. Both show that, after payment of the semi-annual dividend of 2½ per cent., there was a deficiency on the capital of fifty-eight thousand pounds out of a million. There is no difference whatever in the substance, and the difference in form seems to amount to this, that Dixon appears to have expressed himself without caring for the discredit that the announcement of the result would throw on the previous management, while the other directors, probably the manager and managing directors, seem to have preferred language that would let them down softly. No one capable of understanding plain English could possibly be misled by the issued report. If no one could be so misled, where, we ask, was the ground or the justice of the verdict? Was Mr. Scott really and truly deceived by this report? for that is the question. Mr. Scott was acquainted with Mr. Sellars it appears. Was he not rather misled by his faith in the high character and business knowledge of that gentleman? The brokers who obtained the

report from the bank could never have been misled by it as to the true position of the bank and its difficulties. The very steps taken by the directors to place the bank in a sound position were likely to give renewed confidence on the part of the public, and the high business character of Sellars and Dixon was certain to impress the public favourably with the belief that in future the affairs of the bank would be ably, as well as honourably, dealt with. And so they were.

It may, and no doubt will, be asked, How comes it that the bank so suddenly failed, and that all its capital was found to have been lost? The immediate cause of the failure of the bank was the pernicious system of discount and re-discount. The extent of this system could not be immediately known to a new managing director. Every commercial man will be able to understand the position of Mr. Dixon, coming recently as he did into the duties of managing director. When large masses of bills are re-discounted, as was the case at this period, no one can form a correct opinion as to the goodness or the badness of the bills originally discounted. The incoming managers could know little or nothing about the quality of these bills, and the former manager, who alone had seen them, was quite unsuited for his position. It is sufficiently obvious, we think, that even had Mr. Dixon devoted the whole of his time to this portion of the business of the bank exclusively—which it was impossible to expect he should do, especially when there was no apparent reason for hurry—he could not possibly, in the few days between the 4th of July and the issuing of the report, have made himself acquainted with the full details of a concern of such magnitude. There was no reason at that time to doubt the ultimate integrity of the capital, whatever may have been the fact developed by subsequent events and evidence. Where, then, is the case against Mr. Dixon—where the fraud with intent to deceive the plaintiff, as set forth in the proceedings? The question resolves itself to this: Was the report false? Did it really deceive any one? Did the plaintiff buy his shares on the faith of the report, or on his faith in the change of management? We cannot see how even any one of those points was established by evidence. It appeared to be certain that the affairs of the bank might, by good management, be placed in a sound banking position; and it is beyond question that Smith, Sellars, Rathbone, and Dixon were persuaded of the ultimate safety of the bank. Where, then, is the ground for imputing fraud to any one—where, especially to Dixon? But the whole pith and gravamen of the case lie in the Liverpool system of banking. The London banks are established to take care of money for others, the Liverpool banks to lend money to any one who may want it. Money saved in London is frequently sent down to Liverpool, where the banks lend it to people who use it in speculative purchases, very often damaging thereby the interests of the very persons to whom the money really belongs.

* But we do not despair—better times are before us. As long as the monetary steersmen are firm to the principle they have laid down and acted upon resolutely since the crisis, so long may we hope for sound and legitimate business displacing speculation. If the Bank of England directors abide by their rule of refusing to re-discount paper, we shall see no more of such cases of which the Liverpool Borough Bank is a sample.

* But the most remarkable portion of the case is that in which the Judge, when summing up, refers to a statement made by Mr. Dixon at a meeting of the shareholders after the stoppage of the bank.

Mr. Dixon says:—

"I acceded to it only on the understanding recorded on the minutes, that the statement to the shareholders should contain a full and correct disclosure of the position of the bank, even although it should disclose the fact that the dividend was declared out of capital. The Report that has been presented, well examined, shows the fact, although I do feel that it does not make the statement in the broad terms that would have been adopted if the intention had been to state that there was a very handsome surplus." I may state, now, that had it not been for that paragraph in this Report [speech?], I should have said there was no case to go to the jury, and should have stopped the case; but the existence of that paragraph, in my judgment, made it a matter in which I thought I could not properly stop the case, but must leave it to you to decide on. I think that paragraph made it evidence to go to you, but if that had not been there, I should have stopped the case, and said there was no evidence to go to you upon the matter.

This is a most singular declaration. Then there was no *prima facie* evidence of "intended fraud, or

attempt to deceive the plaintiff, whatever." The Judge would have stopped the case, but for certain explanatory words uttered by Mr. Dixon, or said to have been uttered, of which there was no legal proof, by Mr. Dixon. But assuming they had been uttered, and that the report of them was correct, what do they amount to? For the life of us, we cannot see that they can bear any other interpretation than that if "fraud" was contemplated, or suppression contemplated, that Mr. Dixon gave all the resistance in his power, and insisted on a full disclosure of the truth, which only was not done because a majority of his co-directors were against him. But, taking the words in their strongest sense, how can they, by any process of reasoning, be converted into legal evidence of fraud of such strength as to warrant a jury, acting under the solemn obligation of an oath, to declare that the report was issued for the purposes of fraud. We must say, if such evidence is to operate, no director of any company is safe against the verdict of a Manchester jury.

The case is now before the public, and cannot fail to interest not only all directors, but all shareholders; and we trust the subject will have a full and free discussion. To those who may not have the reasonable patience to go through the whole of the detailed report of the trial, the Judge's summing up and Mr. Dixon's speech will give sufficient data to come to a just decision.

We know nothing personally of Mr. Dixon; we are only anxious for justice, and for impartial justice. With respect to the verdict, we are glad to hear the case is to be referred to a higher and more impartial tribunal.

THE PRESS IN PIEDMONT.

In comparing the position of the press in Piedmont with that which it occupies in Belgium, we have no desire to depreciate the former, or to extol the merits of the latter at its expense. There is no higher treason than that which exalts the worth or fame of one corps of a brave army by invidious contrast with some other, which having been more recently embodied, has not had equal opportunities of proving its spirit and reliability in defence of the same righteous cause. Liberty of discussion is older in the Low Countries than in Italy. We speak, of course, of modern, not mediæval, times. Even while subject to the dynasty of Orange, the Belgians enjoyed great freedom of speech and type. Their compulsory union with the Dutch was undoubtedly unpopular from the beginning. But it was a union under constitutional forms. A common senate and a common chamber of representatives sat and voted with open doors, and the political listeners of the two races wrote and published pretty much what they liked respecting them. Now and then, indeed, the Government, stung by the sharp and unsparing sarcasms of its hostile critics at Brussels, Antwerp, or Louvain, would rattle threateningly the law of seditious libel in its scabbard, and more than once the blade was actually drawn. But, in the main, the press of Belgium, from 1815 to 1830, was free, and used, its freedom unceremoniously enough in asserting the national rights. The habit of constitutional thought and action made it strong, and it was by its firm and familiar accents that the people were summoned to arm at last for the expulsion of the foreign sovereign imposed on them by the Treaty of Vienna. Very different has been the fate of Italian journalism. During the whole of the period referred to it lay prostrate beneath the hoof of absolutism. Save for a brief interval, in 1822, when the Neapolitan Bourbons and the King of Sardinia were surprised into insecure relaxations of their tyrannous grip, political, social, and religious discussion in the columns of newspapers was unknown—unknown as it still is throughout the peninsula, everywhere save in Piedmont. There, since 1847, constitutional government has uninterruptedly prevailed; and under the new régime, perhaps we should rather say as one of its symbols and conditions, the daily and weekly organs of popular sentiment have been declared to be free.

In a certain sense, this guarantee of what our own glorious Milton loved to call "soul liberty," has been, and still is, loyally fulfilled by those who have been entrusted with the administration of affairs. The debates of the Chambers and reports of all judicial proceedings are published literally; and the utmost freedom of comment upon them is exercised alike by ministerial, republican, and ultramontane writers. The same may be

said with regard to public documents and State papers of every description, whether foreign or domestic. Political works and books of social science are dissected and discussed upon as freely in the *Opinione* and *Harmonia* as they would be in the *Globe* or *Morning Herald*; and every topic of education and finance is subjected to the diurnal action of public scrutiny. All this is well, excellent well, for any country; for a portion of Italy, as Italy has been in our time, it is an inestimable good and very precious. When it has lasted long enough it will be found to have so habituated the reading classes to the exercise of the right of individual judgment, limited only by the homage due to laws embodying public opinion, that reactionists, however hardy, will be driven to despair.

At present they still plot and cabal openly against the existing order of things, which they hate for its own sake, and still more lest it should prove contagious in Tuscany and elsewhere. But the very liberty which the partisans of Austria and of Rome eagerly avail themselves of in journalism is digging daily deeper the grave of their obscurantist and retrograde system. It is impossible to conceive more seditious invectives than the *sacerdotal* and *reactionary* papers of Turin contain; yet they are suffered to pass with little notice. Victor Emmanuel occupies himself with flirtation and shooting, undisturbed by ribaldry or incantations; and M. Cavour adroitly turns the violence of the *Absolutist* party to account by pointing to it every now and then, when pressed by impatient Liberals to go faster, with a gesture or look that says, "You see what I am shielding you from!"

If the rulers of Piedmont, however, really desire the growth of the press as a national institution, and if they wish to see it attain that maturity of thought and moderation of tone which is indispensable to the right use of moral influence, they must make up their minds to forego the obsolete implements of restraint and repression; and not only to forego their application administratively, but to sweep them away finally and for ever by some legislative act. The *De Foresti* law of last session was avowedly passed at the instance of Louis Napoleon, alarmed for his personal safety and the duration of his dynasty by the attempt of Orsini and his accomplices. It substitutes a tribunal in certain cases, directly nominated by the executive, for the jury system, and as such is unquestionably a retrograde step as far as it goes. Still as long as a Liberal ministry are in power there ought to be no very great danger that vexatious proceedings will be instituted under it; that any criminal suit will be unreasonably pressed; or that excessive penalties, if awarded, will be exacted. But everything depends upon the temper in which it is administered; and unfortunately there are other powers, not of an exceptional kind, conferred by law on the Government, which are far more at variance with the healthful freedom of journalism; and the exercise of which we learn with deep regret is a matter of frequent occurrence.

The Minister of the Interior is empowered by his own order to suppress the whole publication of any Sardinian newspaper as soon as it appears, without assigning any cause, or being subject to any claim for compensation, or appeal to any authority political or judicial. A still more monstrous and oppressive power is that which enables him to arrest the editor of a newspaper, or any other person connected therewith, and to cast him into prison, without making any definite charge against him, or giving him the opportunity of demanding a public trial. There has never been in Piedmont any law similar to our *Habeas Corpus*; and the result is, that when a person, who may have been unpopular or indiscreet, is laid hold of by the police under a Secretary of State's warrant, and thrown into gaol, no surprise is expressed, or indignation felt, as there would be in England, or Switzerland, or in Belgium. In illustration of the arbitrary way in which these odious prerogatives are used, we may mention that during the last year and a half of its existence the *Italia del Popolo* was seized for more than fifty different days, and its entire edition withheld from circulation; while, during the same period, five editors were one after another arrested and imprisoned, without trial or indictment, for the space of several weeks; and, in some cases, even months! We cannot consent to argue the question on the alleged ground that the Republican organ alluded to was mimical to the Government, and exasperating to foreign despotisms. If it did wrong, it ought to have been amenable to law, by lawful means. But arbitrary sequestration, and arbitrary

imprisonment, are not lawful means for the attainment of any object; and the sooner the Sardinian Legislature puts an end to such blots and excrescences on the constitutional régime, the better. To preserve them any longer would be at once a crime and a blunder.

THE FUTURE OF THE SCOTTISH UNIVERSITIES.

The disadvantages which characterise the Scottish University system, as contrasted with the ancient Academical institutions of our own country, are obvious, and have been dwelt upon in every discussion of the subject. The absence of endowments and emolument prevents the long residence of students who want to achieve more than the rudimentary elements of knowledge in the scenes where these first instructions were gained. The absence of the imposition of an examination for graduation, as the necessary culmination of the student's course, and a pre-requisite for admission into a learned profession, has necessarily acted against the high education of Scotland's teachers; and the want of private guidance and instruction has necessitated the fruitlessness of the larger portion of public prelections. These obvious drawbacks have been alleged with almost painful reiterated; but we confidently believe that the opposite of the picture has not been sufficiently displayed. This converse, constituting as it does the specialties and peculiarities of Scottish College teaching, is, in other words, the existing capacities which further opportunity ought to use. Every reform is the best which finds in the thing about which the reform is to be achieved the elements of improvement. It is easier to nourish weak and sickly shoots into maturity and fruit-bearing, than it is to graft upon them entirely foreign substances. And, to apply our general rule, it is better for the Scottish colleges to seek in their own old intent, history and practice, the seeds of future reforms, than to weaken and denationalise themselves in the vain endeavour to make of St. Andrews and Glasgow an Oxford and a Cambridge. If this view be granted, it must follow that to point out these existing advantages, to show in what direction they ought to be fostered, and to endeavour the discovery of what safeguards ought to surround and restrain them, is the best course to pursue.

The deepest in its nature and the widest in its influences of these specialties, is the popular basis on which the Scottish colleges are founded. In England and in Scotland both, promising youthful talent is not denied access, as a general rule, even if poor, to further academical instruction. This beneficial end is in each case attained by different means. In England, university education is very expensive; but by the foundations established by piety and by the network of close connexion which binds each old county and provincial school to its own college and university, a talented boy is provided with a whole or a part of the means which enable him to achieve graduation and further university advantages. In Scotland, on the other hand, with exceptions which are so trifling as not in the least degree to affect the contrast, no such means are provided by public spirit for defraying the charge of the university education of the poor; but then, on the other hand, the expenses of college education are so slight as to bring it within the reach of almost all who choose to make the necessary and testing sacrifices.

It may be said, then, that practically the English and the Scottish colleges are both equally popular on this score. This view fades away on a little deeper inquiry. For, after all, this pecuniary assistance in England can only reach some of those who wish and are deserving of it. And then, if, once on the foundation of a school, talent will ensure a further university training, on the other hand, it must be remembered that, in many instances, only interest and influence can admit you into the school, and place you in the right groove. However munificent, then, the legacies and bequests which have created these facilities in England, however undeniable the advantages to the country which they produce, their exercise is, at the best, only partial and incomplete. In Scotland, on the other hand, the only element to the enjoyment of the privileges of college education for the very poorest is the perseverance and self-sacrifice which is their essential pre-requisite condition. And no one can say but that that condition is the very one which wisdom would have speculatively suggested. There is more filling of the mind with knowledge

in England; there is in Scotland more creation in the mind of wants. This we believe to be the great distinction between the effects of Scottish and English collegiate training. The English graduate knows more, and apprehends what he knows more thoroughly and systematically, than he who has just quitted the Natural Philosophy and Rhetoric classes at Edinburgh, at the conclusion of his four years' course. The English student sails out of harbour a neat, small craft, with all his appointments complete. In the mind of the Scottish student there have been laid down only ribs, far separated and disjointed it may be, of a barque which, if ever completed, will be much nobler, much more capacious. It will be answered at once, and most fairly, that you had better produce a self-consistent culture in the minds of most, than merely lay foundations of intellectual development, which, in nine cases out of ten, have never one timber more laid upon them, for the sake of the tenth case where a fabric, more or less complete, is reared. But the extenuation lies here: the Scottish student has only what we may call the term of his under-graduation to receive all the benefits of university training. And you must attempt to do for a quick and promising Scottish student, in the four years which elapse before he betakes himself to law, divinity, or business, all that you can do for a man who studies at an English college over a number of years of indefinite extent. But it must be allowed, after all, that in considerable measure Scottish colleges are themselves remedying this defect of the small fabric on the large foundation. Scotland supplies its philosophic teachers from itself, but as it is only now and again that it has produced a Ruddiman or an Adam, and as it is itself convinced that it has no more Playfairs and Leslie, with a wise liberality of spirit it has sent to England for Mr. Kelland, of Edinburgh, and the accomplished Professor Thompson, of Glasgow; just as it has there filled its classical chairs from the same source.

Partially to recapitulate what we have said, but more to make application of our remarks in the light intended in the outset, we have only now to add that, while the popular basis of a Scottish collegiate teaching is a benefit which can hardly be over-estimated, the benefit can only blossom into full fruition and perfection if additional facilities, such as those which exist in England, are afforded for deeper and higher instruction. While Scotchmen may still point with pride and satisfaction to the influence of the public teachings of Hutcheson, who vivified with soul and spirit the cold materialism which, in his day, occupied the whole philosophical domain, and repelled men from the study of mind; while they may still be proud that from a Glasgow Professor's chair came the philosophical method which has proved itself as applicable to the reputation of the transcendentalisms of Reid's future, as it did to the plausible sophistries prevalent in his own day; while they have a right to proclaim the fact that "Dugald Stewart sent to London a school of politicians who have guided the public progress of the century; that many a mind now speaking to the ears and eyes of England through press and pulpit, received its culture as it hung upon the words of Sir William Hamilton; while these and many similar instances are just grounds for the high laudation of the efficacy of professorial teaching, they ought not to blind the national mind to the fact that, although here and there a giant oak or elm may arise from a seed planted by fortuitous the most unexpected, the humble but necessary broad crop of waving grain requires the modest efforts of the patient tiller, as well as the broadcast seed-sowing of him who plants the germ. Tutorial instruction without professorial teaching will only reduce to culture powers only half developed in their energy and in their numbers. But just as truly, professorial prelection without tutorial inculcation may produce here and there a mighty monument of its influence, but will leave barren and fruitless many a spot of soil, good in itself, and unprolific only from the absence of the humble care of the tutor.

BOOK-HAWKING IN FRANCE.

AMONG the many objects of permanent suspicion to the French Government there are few that from time to time have caused more anxiety than the sale of books, pamphlets, and periodicals, by means of what is termed *colportage*. Ever since the days of Paul Courier, who was in a certain sense the Cobbett of France, and whose writings were dis-

persed by the book-hawkers through every department of the kingdom, it has been the practice of all who wished to disseminate widely their opinions to commit their publications to the hands of these indefatigable agents.

Far better than any professional propagandist they were supposed to do the work of political and social propagandism. With his literary pack upon his shoulder, or suspended from his neck, the hawker trudged from village to village, and from town to town, displaying in each his latest assortment of cheap editions of old books and tempting copies of new ones. Histories compressed into two-franc volumes; biographies, with striking portraits, for half the money; and some without those stern embellishments, for seventy-five centimes; pocket collections of Béranger's songs, and Ten of the most celebrated dramas of the classic school, compacted into one dwarfish tome; political *brochures* and piquant novels; almanacks and lives of saints; cookery books and gaudy-looking missals; something, in short, for every age and taste was to be found in the wallet of the impartial pedler. Now and then a *gendarme*, more officious than the rest of his fraternity, would look inquisitively through the miscellaneous heap as it lay spread forth upon some tavern bench; and now and then an austere curate, who had detected one of his youthful penitents in the perusal of a tale of Balzac or George Sand, would denounce as emissaries of Satan all itinerant vendors of profane and worldly publications. But the appetite was too strong to be scared either by priest's maledictions or policeman's frowns into abstinence from the mental fare it once had tasted; and neither Charles X. nor Louis Philippe ever ventured openly to tamper with the popular gratification. They were well aware that books of a radical tendency were widely circulated by the *colporteurs* in remote districts, where otherwise the philosophic theories of Paris would never have been known; but they wisely shrank from meddling with a custom that had become thoroughly national, and contented themselves with encouraging such counteractive agencies as were suggested to them from time to time.

The present "paternal governor" of France has characteristically undertaken to determine what three-and-thirty millions of people shall intellectually eat, what they shall mentally drink, and wherewithal they shall morally be clothed. Under the restored Empire steps have been taken for the first time to bring *colportage* under the direct control of Government. An *index expurgatorius* as rigorous as that of Rome has been framed at the Ministry of the Interior, in which is inscribed every work obnoxious to the powers that be. This list is not of course made public; but manuals of instructions are furnished to the préfets, magistrates, and commissaries of police throughout the departments. With these precious guides for their inquisitorial feet, the local authorities have made it part of their ordinary business to rummage the packs of the book-hawkers, and at their discretion to rifle their contents of whatever smells of political or social freedom. Stimulated moreover by the clergy, with whom their imperial master affects to have such intimate relations, they have extended their detective care to all books deemed heterodox by the established church. Speculative inquiry must be suppressed, as tending to subvert the foundations of order; and sectarian controversy of every kind must be treated as contraband of priestly war. Logically following out these premises to their practical conclusions, cheap copies of the Bible were in many places seized, as being calculated to bring the religion of the State, and thereby the State itself, into contempt. How could the belief in miraculous manifestations like that of the White Lady of Lourdes be hoped for if the right of private judgment were anachronically permitted, and its great charter actually placed within the reach of all men? Or how would the nation come to regard the profusion of imperial expenditure on Catholic churches and institutions of every kind, if doubts were once permitted to be sown broadcast through the land as to the exclusive truth of Catholicity?

In the department of the Sarthe, some persons of consideration ventured lately, however, to remonstrate against the perpetration of this new stretch of the "paternal system." Representations were made in high quarters, and the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, the *Journal des Débats*, the *Siecle*, and other journals courageously took up the defence of this last remnant of departed liberty. As a

specimen of the tone in which the subject has been treated, we give the following extract from an article in the first-named periodical:—

It is an incontestable fact, that since the sixteenth century nations which have fed (as *nourissent*) upon the Bible have, in spite of the varieties of sects, been fundamentally religious; while in nations where the Bible is not read, whatever has been lost by Catholicism has been equally lost by Christianity, and gained by atheism, materialism, and a brutal indifference to the interests of the soul. This has been the state of things with the enlightened classes; and this was it which more particularly hurried our France of the eighteenth century into such deplorable errors. And does not this evil of irreligion extend itself to the people? If the relative numbers of the Catholics and Protestants in each of our provinces were ascertained, who will venture to affirm that of the Catholics a large proportion—the majority, perhaps—is not practically indifferent to one or the other form of worship? The question which arises then, is this: Shall we allow religious belief to become totally extinguished in the midst of a population absorbed in material labour and corrupted by misery? Ought these souls, unfortunately so depraved, to be abandoned to the temptations of an abject materialism? Do they not rather offer a moral field wherein all Christian communities should be invited to exercise their zeal? Is it not better that the Christian spark should communicate a portion of its priority and strength to these desolate regions, even at the risk of sowing Protestantism there? It will be seen that we do not appeal to passions—that we address ourselves to the sentiment of the good mother in the judgment of Solomon, who, rather than struggle for the severed limbs of her child, abandoned it living to her rival.

Ashamed of being caught in the masquerading garb of a servant of the Holy Office, Louis Napoleon has compelled the over-zealous *préfet* of the Sarthe to issue a circular, in which it is condescendingly stated, that as works of Protestant divinity, including the Protestant version of the Scriptures, have a general moral tendency, and do not stir revolutionary questions, his Majesty, the moral ruler of France, will graciously permit them to be sold as formerly by the *colporteurs*.

DISEASE IN THE ARMY.

We can hardly imagine a more important subject, in the present state of European affairs, than the sanitary condition of our army. The lamentable sacrifice of life from disease in the Crimea, and the scarcely less formidable ravages in India, for Russians and Sepoys are nothing to fever and phthisis, have thoroughly aroused all classes, including the Government, to a sense of the necessity of a searching inquiry and thorough reformation in relation to the treatment of the soldier.

The Royal Commissioners appointed to examine into the condition of the army in their recent report have given a great deal of valuable information on the subject. They collected a mass of diversified evidence, and they have elicited facts which will enable those capable of making correct inductions to point out the reforms and improvements that are necessary. We are spared the necessity of detailing these, as we have been enabled to lay before our readers a very full report of Mr. Neison's paper on the "Phthisis in the Army." The purport of this remarkable able paper is to take up the facts where the Royal Commissioners left them, and to carry on the induction which they seem to have abandoned at the first stage.

It was indisputably proved that a great proportion of the deaths from disease in the army arises from phthisis or consumption. Having arrived at this remarkable, and we believe we may say unexpected, fact, the commissioners abandoned further statistics, and sought for a solution of the causes rather after the common manner of speculation than of rigid scientific inquiry. Three opinions, and they were nothing more, were indulged in, and the causes were stated to be either intemperance, exposure to the weather, or overcrowding in the residences or barracks. The last came to be generally adopted, and it was declared as the opinion to be stated in the report; and thus confidently put forth and powerfully recommended, it is probable that the Legislature will proceed to legislate upon it.

Where the practical men stopped, the scientific investigator took up the matter, and set himself diligently to test by numerous and various data whether consumption was a disorder generated by overcrowding. The result is shown in the conclusive paper read at Leeds before the British Association, and which we reprint entire. After a careful perusal of it, we think there can be no doubt that the conclusion to which the Royal Commiss-

sions jumped, for they were led to it by no apparent sound reasoning on substantial data, was an erroneous one, and that the causes of consumption in the army must be looked for in another direction than overcrowding in barracks. Mr. Neison confirms the received opinion that the zymotic, or fever diseases, arise from overcrowding, but finds that consumption does not, except in certain degrees that do not come within the case of the soldier.

Now, if this be the fact, it is of the very highest importance that, previous to legislating on the matter, Mr. Neison, or some other equally competent statistician, should be empowered to thoroughly investigate the subject. It would not only save a large amount of otherwise misdirected money, but also save many valuable lives, and preserve a class of men valuable to and deserving of the earnest attention of the Government and the nation. Mr. Neison seems carefully to abstain in his paper from giving any opinion of the causes of the alarming preponderance of phthisis. He only shows that it does not arise from overcrowding. Having got to this fact, true Baconian as he is, he does not speculate on the cause, but gains some clue by testing the mortality in different regiments, and thus elicits the fact that the Foot Guards suffer the most. It then remains to be seen whether there is anything peculiar in the life, dress, or exercise of this particular regiment; but it is not for us to anticipate the deductions of a strictly scientific and philosophic inquiry; and we therefore only call the attention of all interested in the matter to a careful perusal of Mr. Neison's paper; and at the same time urge on the Government the necessity of paying every attention to the important results of the investigation. We seem to be approaching a true diagnosis of the evil, and when that is once attained, the remedy will be easily found and as readily applied.

PHTHISIS IN THE ARMY.

An examination of the influence of overcrowding and density of population in producing phthisis and diseases of the respiratory organs, applied to the solution of some questions discussed in the recent Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Army, as read by Mr. G. F. Neison, at the British Association, at Leeds, on Thursday, 23rd of August.

The Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the sanitary condition of the British army, the state of the hospitals, &c., published early in the present year, a very elaborate and most valuable report, the result of an exceedingly comprehensive amount of varied and diversified evidence taken before them. As is already well known to the public through the medium of the press, a frightful rate of mortality takes place in the ranks of the army while stationed in the United Kingdom; but I shall here seek to engage your attention by only a brief recapitulation of the general results.

ABSTRACT A.

Actual number of deaths in the	Deaths which would have happened according to the mortality in					
	England and Wales		Out-door occupations		Labourers in the Rural Districts	
	No.	Diff. p.c.	No.	Diff. p.c.	No.	Diff. p.c.
Household Cavalry = 134	122	10.1	96	46.8	75	77.9
Dragoon Guards and Dragoons = 705	512	37.6	406	72.7	321	119.3
Foot Guards = 820	393	103.6	314	161.1	246	233.3
Infantry of the Line = 2523	1472	91.8	1208	133.6	938	194.7

These results are certainly very remarkable, and afford a succinct view of the relation in which the different results stand to each other.

In the War-office Report itself a comparison is instituted between the actual mortality of the army and that which prevails in twenty-four large towns of England and Wales; but such a comparison is obviously at fault, for, as I have elsewhere fully shown, the gross mortality, not only of the whole kingdom, but of individual towns and districts, is greatly increased by the inclusion of the destitute, the dissolute, and the intemperate, as well as by the presence of many persons following occupations and trades of an unusually unhealthy character. Even in the rural districts of this country it will be seen, on referring to pp. 53-59 of "Contributions to Vital Statistics," that the mortality of the sixteen trades referred to in page 58 of that work is greatly in excess of the residue of the same districts.

The military are certainly free from the noxious influences peculiar to many trades and occupations. They do not suffer from destitution, nor can they be

classed as a body with the notoriously intemperate. Every just comparison must, therefore, be made with some such classes as those forming the two last sections of the preceding abstract, but if the comparison be made with the general mortality of England and Wales (for the male sex), it will be found that the infantry of the line are subject to an increased ratio of mortality of no less than 91.752 per cent.

If the out-door occupations

133,620 per cent.

in the rural districts, the excess is no less than 194.658 per cent. being nearly three times the rate of mortality in this branch of the service that is found to take place amongst labourers in the rural districts at the corresponding ages.

In Appendix LXXI. of the Report of the Commissioners, as well as in the body of the Report itself, it is shown that among various classes exposed to severe night duty in the open air, such as the Metropolitan Police Force, and the railway employees, and also an otherwise since established in the London Fire Brigade, the rate of mortality is somewhat less than that for the country generally at the corresponding ages. In the same Appendix it is also conclusively shown, as admitted in the report of the commissioners, that the high rate of mortality in the army cannot be accounted for by the prevalence of intemperance. It further appears in the same Appendix that whatever may be the primary cause of the greatly augmented mortality in the army, the immediate cause of it is the prevalence of consumption to an extent entirely unprecedented, and quite unknown in connexion with any other series of observations in the whole range of vital statistics; and without a corresponding increase from other causes, taking all branches of the army, the deaths from disease of the respiratory organs form about sixty per cent. of the deaths from all causes. The following abstract, however, places the results in a very distinct light.

ABSTRACT B.

	Number of Deaths from Diseases of the Respiratory Organs.		
	England & Wales.	Actual.	Diff. per Cent.
Household Cavalry	62,870	79	+ 25.656
Dragoon Guards, &c.	251,112	400	+ 59.291
Infantry	760,005	1641	+ 115.902
Foot Guards	203,560	355	+ 172.847
Total	1,277,547	2675	+ 109.387

The Commissioners finding that the enormous mortality from consumption was the great scourge of the army, and that it was as impossible to account for its prevalence from any of the causes already described, have, as most readers of the newspaper press are no doubt fully aware, attributed it mainly to overcrowding of the barracks.

In my examination before the Commission, and in the papers submitted by me, and forming the Appendix already quoted from, the effect of various employments on health, the influence of different forms of physical exercises, and the manner in which intemperate and irregular habits show themselves in the immediate cause of death, are very fully discussed. None of the questions, however, submitted for my consideration by the Commission involved, I regret to say, the consideration of the influence of over-crowding or bad ventilation on the development of diseases of the lungs, or I should have been glad at the time to have submitted the hypothesis, to whatever statistical tests were available. Nor has any other witness, nor the Commissioners themselves, supplied any facts or numerical evidence leading to the conclusion at which they have arrived in their Report, that over-crowding in ill-conditioned barracks is the main cause of the great destruction of life by inducing phthisis in the army.

From the deserved importance attached by the public to the deliberation of the Commission, it is in every way most necessary that such means as are available should be employed to test the practical value of the empirical opinions on which the over-crowding hypothesis is founded. The still imperfect returns made by the Registrar-General, however, prevent this from being done in that complete manner which is desirable, but they contain much available evidence which can, although only by a considerable amount of labour, be brought to bear on the question.

Having devoted the necessary time for that purpose, I now beg to submit to this section the results at which I have arrived.

That a sufficiently broad basis might be taken on which to found or establish a reliable test, I have taken the returns of the mortality for the whole of England and Wales, and the various districts thereof, for the seven years 1848-54.

As shown in details in Tables I., II., III., IV., V., and VI. inclusive, the mortality per cent. has been determined for the different terms of life, and for the various classes of diseases.

1st. For the whole of England and Wales.
2nd. For London.

3rd. For those districts of the kingdom in which the density of population varies from 28—72 per hectare (the hectare equals nearly 2½ acres).

4th. For districts in which the density varies from 84—99.

5th. For Lancashire (.28 or 7-10 acres); and

6th. For the residue of the population of England and Wales.

If it be true that increasing density of population, particularly in the sense in which it is understood in regard to barracks' sleeping accommodation, has a tendency to augment diseases of the lungs more than all other diseases, then it is evident that districts in which the sleeping accommodation differs so widely must show a marked difference in the ratio of deaths taking place from phthisical causes. No doubt the results of the influence of a uniformly and generally increased density of population in a district which is not, in any considerable portion of it, highly intensified in its overcrowding, would be uniformly compared with the results of a district or section of population which is throughout overcrowded; but in London, or Lancashire, and in the third district of England now under consideration, we have been long accustomed to hear reports through the "Health of Towns Commission" of great and, in many instances, of major portions of them being overcrowded to a degree which shocks morality and the ordinary notions of common decency.

Into these details it is now unnecessary to enter; they are patent to all giving attention to questions affecting the public health. Although, therefore, there is no one district of the kingdom in which there is a uniform system of overcrowding, still there are many—and among them those now under review—in which the overcrowding of the large portions of them is such that if the hypothesis be of any value, there must be at the least a slightly augmented ratio of death from consumption compared with the general ratio of increase from all causes. Let us see how far this is in agreement with recorded facts.

It must be clearly understood that the hypothesis on which the commissioners rest their conclusions is not simply that overcrowding may induce phthisis in an increased ratio—that would probably be denied by no one.

In the army, the deaths from diseases of the lungs are absolutely, as well as relatively, to the deaths from all other causes, in a ratio so high, beyond all precedent and example, as to form a new and important problem for solution in vital statistics.

The hypothesis, therefore, of the Commissioners resolves itself into the following:—That "overcrowding," although it increases the general mortality, has the peculiar characteristic of intensifying the deaths from diseases of the lungs greatly beyond those from all other causes."

On referring to Abstract B. preceding, it will be found that the total excess of deaths above the average for England and Wales is 1981.57, while at the same ages, in diseases of the "respiratory organs" only, it will be seen there is an excess of no less than 1,397.45 deaths, or at about 70 per cent. of the whole increase.

This result deserves the most careful and patient consideration. Again, on referring to the abstract B. preceding, it will be seen that, according to the mortality of England and Wales, the normal ratio of deaths from diseases of the "respiratory organs" is 44.48 per cent.; and yet of the whole excess of deaths from all causes no less than 70 per cent. is due to the organs of respiration.

The full importance of this result will be perhaps better appreciated by the following illustration:—

Actual number of deaths from
diseases of the respiratory
organs = 2,675.0
Normal number of deaths = 1,277.6

Difference of excess = 1,397.4 = 109 per cent.
If the residue of the deaths from all other causes
whatever be viewed in this manner, the results are—

Actual number of deaths from
all other causes ... = 1,807.0
Normal number of deaths = 1,211.8

Difference or excess = 595.2 = 49 per cent.

These results conclusively show that the condition of the army is such as to induce an excess of diseases of the organs of respiration, with a much higher intensity than all other diseases collectively; in fact, the excess of deaths from diseases of the organs of respiration, is considerably more than double that from all other causes.

This peculiar feature in the mortality of the army has not been observed in any other series of observations, and it is of the utmost importance to deter-

mine whether the solution of it offered by the Commissioners be the correct one.

Should their hypothesis be found not in accordance with facts and experience, then the most serious consequences must result from it to the sanitary state of the army; as, without the true solution, there is little chance of effectual remedies being applied.

In Tables I. to VI. inclusive, appended, are given the ratio of mortality per cent. from all specified causes at the different terms of life; but I shall now refer simply to the results for the soldiers' ages as given in the following abstract of the tables.

ABSTRACT C.

Ratio of Deaths from each Cause to the total Deaths from all Causes in the following Districts.

(SOLDIERS' AGES.)

Group of Diseases.	% of Deaths			Density 28—72	Density 84—99	Least Density
	England and Wales.	London.	Lancashire.			
1. Phthisis	37.0	35.2	36.0	35.4	36.2	43.7
2. Residue of Tubercular Diseases and Diseases of the Respiratory Organs	9.5	9.6	10.3	10.2	9.2	8.4
3. Zymotic Diseases	46.5	44.8	45.3	45.6	45.4	52.1
4. Diseases of the Nervous System and Digestive Organs	19.1	23.6	21.4	20.3	17.6	11.6
5. Sudden and External Causes	11.0	8.2	10.7	10.9	11.7	13.3
6. Other Diseases	10.8	11.9	9.1	9.7	12.0	10.3
7. All Causes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

A careful examination of the results given in this abstract, leads to a conclusion quite at variance with the hypothesis of the Commissioners. In fact, in the densest districts, the mortality from diseases of the lungs is relatively to the deaths from all causes much less than in the more thinly peopled districts.

In London the deaths are 44.8 per cent.

England and Wales, 46.5 "

And in the residue of the country, after deducting the districts enumerated in Abstract C. " 52.1

It will be seen that the effect of density and overcrowding is not to intensify pulmonary disease so much as the class of zymotic diseases. The third line of this abstract gives a striking illustration of this; reading from the last column toward the first, it will appear that the relative amount of zymotic diseases to those from all causes increases gradually, and almost uniformly, with the ratio of density, from 11.6 per cent. in the least dense districts to 22.6 per cent. in London, the most closely-packed district; the results for England and Wales, which include all the districts, being of course intermediate. The diseases of the nervous system and digestive organs exhibit a somewhat remarkable uniformity throughout all the groups.

It is when the results of the mortality in the army are given in the particular form of expression adopted in the preceding abstract, that they appear anomalous, the mortality from diseases of the lungs being among the

Household Cavalry ... 59.0 of the whole deaths.
Dragoon Guards, &c. ... 53.9 do.
Infantry of the Line ... 57.3 do.
Foot Guards ... 67.7 do.

These results are very singular, and will appear still more so if it be kept in view—throwing out of comparison the Household Cavalry, a very small body, and therefore subject to marked fluctuations—that as the general mortality increases, so does the ratio of deaths from diseases of the lungs increase. If, therefore, over-crowding were the main cause of developing so inordinate an amount of consumption, the barrack accommodation for the different branches of the service should be found contracting in the order in which the general mortality, as well as that from consumption, increases; but it happens to be quite otherwise. A careful examination of the preceding facts, it is believed, does anything but support the hypothesis now under consideration of the Commissioners.

There is however, another and in some respects a more simple, and in unskillful hands a safer, way of solving this question, and that is, instead of taking the ratio of the mortality from "one cause" to the mortality from "all causes," to determine the actual rate of mortality from "each cause," and I have accordingly placed all the preceding results in that form. The detailed tables hereto appended give the results for various terms of life; but in the abstract to which I ask the attention of the section, reference will be made to the results for the soldiers' ages only. In the preparation of the following abstract, the actual mortality per cent. at the given ages was in the first place determined, and then the differences per cent. between these results and the corresponding ones for England and Wales were found, and the

abstract will therefore show, for each cause of death in the army, whether it is in greater or less activity than in the country generally.

ABSTRACT D.

Differences between the Mortality per cent. in the following Districts, and that for England and Wales (SOLDIERS' AGES.)

Group of Diseases.	London.	Lancashire.	Density 28—72	Density 84—99	Least Density
1. Phthisis	+ 14.0	+ 19.6	+ 4.5	+ 12.4	+ 14.3
2. Residue of Tubercular Diseases and Diseases of the Respiratory Organs	+ 19.8	+ 32.3	+ 17.7	+ 13.5	+ 34.3
3. Zymotic Diseases	+ 15.2	+ 22.3	+ 7.5	+ 12.6	+ 18.4
4. Diseases of the Nervous System and Digestive Organs	+ 41.7	+ 38.0	+ 16.7	+ 17.2	+ 54.3
5. Sudden and External Causes	- 10.0	+ 20.9	+ 10.0	+ 3.6	+ 9.1
6. Other Diseases	+ 32.1	+ 3.7	- 1.8	- 0.9	+ 31.2
7. All Causes	+ 19.9	+ 23.1	+ 9.6	+ 10.3	+ 21.4

In viewing the preceding abstract it is right to explain that the results in the first line are of the most importance, as in the army *Phthisis Pulmonalis* constitutes about 80 per cent. of the deaths from diseases of the lungs, and about 50 per cent. of the deaths from all causes. This being explained, the results in abstract D are, as bearing on the applicability of the hypothesis in question on the causes of the mortality in the army, even more remarkable than those in abstract C. In every instance, except one, the differences between the mortality per cent. in the respective districts from phthisis, and that for England and Wales, are less than the differences between the mortality from all causes, showing that death from phthisis is more positive in its determination—in other words, less subject to fluctuation, and less affected by external causes than the other diseases in the aggregate.

In London, the densest of the districts, the increase beyond that of the country generally from death by phthisis is 14 per cent., while the increase from all causes is about 20 per cent.; but in the least dense portion of the kingdom, as shown in the last column of Abstract D, the decrease from Phthisis is precisely 14.8 per cent., but that from all causes 27.8 per cent., reversing exactly the positions held by these diseases in the army, as already pointed out, in which it was shown that the deaths from diseases of the lungs were in excess of the normal number 109 per cent.; but the deaths from other causes were in excess only 49 per cent. There appears, therefore, no relation between the hypothesis advanced by the Royal Commission and the causes of the actual increase of mortality which has taken place. If the great havoc made in the ranks of the British army while at home had been occasioned through deaths from zymotic causes, then the hypothesis under discussion would, if applied to that class of diseases, have held good, and the conclusion they have arrived at might have been suggestive of ulterior proceedings, beneficial to the brave men have to fight our battles, improving to their moral conditions and physical power, thereby enhancing the financial resources of the empire.

The results in the third line of Abstract D are exactly confirmatory of those in Abstract C., showing that density of population is only powerful in developing zymotic diseases. It is somewhat remarkable that the results of the two abstracts, in which the mode of expressing the relation of the facts recorded is so decidedly different, should agree precisely, showing, in both instances, that the only diseases which follow the order of density in their development is the zymotic class.

If in Abstract D the results for the deaths from the whole class of diseases of the "respiratory organs" be taken into consideration instead of those from *phthisis pulmonalis*, only the same reasoning and argument will be found to apply, the deaths from consumption being always more constant, less affected by external circumstances, and showing less disturbance in their development in the different districts than the remaining diseases. In fact, compare in any considerable portion of the population, which is either more or less crowded than the average of the kingdom, the deaths from phthisis and diseases of the respiratory organs, and the ratio will be found always subject to less perturbation than the residues of all other diseases.

If the hypothesis of the commissioners were therefore well founded this would not be so, for districts in which there was a large amount of over-crowding would, when compared with those thinly populated, show, to a less or greater extent, the well-marked peculiarity of the mortality in the army of intensifying deaths from consumption more than those from other causes. The present investigation, however, shows that overcrowding produces the very opposite effect, and that deaths from consumption are in-

creased in a much less ratio than the deaths from other causes.

If the methods followed in this communication, and the various conclusions thence deduced be thoroughly reliable, then it is obvious that many of the recommendations made by the Royal Commission on the sanitary state of the army, however valuable they may be on other grounds, will not, if carried out, produce the intended effect of reducing the ratio of deaths from diseases of the respiratory organs among our soldiers to the normal conditions of the country generally.

It was proposed to discuss in this paper the statistical value of the Commissioners' hypothesis only, and not to enter on the consideration of the real cause of the high ratio of deaths from consumption in the army. Enough, it is believed, has been already adduced in Appendix LXXXI of the report to indicate the chief cause of not only the general high rate of mortality, but also of the very unprecedented and frightful destruction of life by diseases of the lungs.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

STUDIES OF CHRISTIANITY.

Studies of Christianity. A series of Original Papers, now first collected, or new. By James Martineau. Longman and Co.

A CRITICISM of a history, poem, or novel, which regarded nothing more than its style and outward manner, would be most meagre and unsatisfactory. And a similar treatment of a book of any kind containing opinion and thoughtfulness, will be just so much the more disappointing to those interested in the questions discussed in the book, as matter rises in relative proportion to manner, when you ascend the gamut of literature, from lightest "belles lettres" to richest metaphysic and theology. And yet, knowing as we do the superficial and meagre character of such criticisms of such books, we can venture no more in a catholic literary journal, which takes no side in the sectarian disputes either of literature or religion, and assumes no duty in this field but the impartial chronicling of the progress of opinion, than to tell our readers, in a summary way, what this book is, what it professes, and how its professions are verified, in respect of the mechanism and literary handicraft.

This book, though written by a well-known, popular, and influential Englishman, is a reprint from the publication of it in America. This is a curious and a growing feature. We have more than a surmise that, in New England, a book of opinion of any kind is more widely read, and speaks more directly to the popular mind, than in England. The influence of Mr. Carlyle here is, we believe, deeper and wider than that of Mr. Emerson over his countrymen. But Mr. Carlyle's influence is not exercised directly upon the people's minds. It is exerted only through his large band of popularisers—his thorough or partial disciples and copyists. Whereas Mr. Emerson, not without his special esoteric school, speaks to and is responded to with wonderful directness by the general mass of the minds of his fellow-citizens. True, Mr. Emerson does not give a half-educated man so many nuts to crack as his brother of Chelsea; and his style is more attractive and alluring to a class of minds far larger and more impressible than those Mr. Carlyle specially affects. But even if you make due allowance for that, the main features of the contrast, on which we could easily bring other illustrations to bear, remain unaccounted for, except by the solution that it is in some elements occupying the minds addressed, and not the minds teaching, that the explanation is to be found. We hazard an opinion, not as complete and sufficient in itself, but as at least offering a partial explanation of the greater zest for controversy and discussion of high questions, which prevails in New England. The more popular institutions of the States, the more general diffusion of all the means of education, the greater leisure afforded by better pay for less work, are all factors towards our conclusion. But they are not sufficiently specific for our purpose. They only partially explain the increased devotion to speculative questions, and rather account for a larger public for literature generally to address. There are two types of religious belief which,

by their respective specialties, produce a somewhat hard and iconoclastic mental culture, and habitude for dialectic. These are Calvinism and Unitarianism. These are the poles of religious belief within the pale of Christian faith. The latter has travelled further from the former than from any other dogma. The former opposes the latter as no Christianity at all. And yet the influences which both exercise on the minds of their believers are singularly similar. They both, differing as they do in doctrine, agree in this, that they claim with equal zeal the worth of a ritual and the efficacy of a priesthood. They both strongly foster individualism. The one sighs for communion with a personal Deity—the other firmly directs the conscience to personal duty. Now these two forms of belief are just those current and powerful in New England, each the more energetic by the present antagonism of the other. Hence the highly developed logical activity and spirit of mental research, which make America more quickly and generally responsive to speculative opinion and its advocacy, than England. This view, if correct, it must be confessed, so far from solving, only throws a partial light upon the phenomenon, and carries it one stage further back. For if the forms of belief have produced this specific result in the national mind, the national mind first chose and worked its way to those forms of belief.

Mr. Martineau commences his preface with the following sentences:—

The volume here presented to the English reader has been compiled, primarily for American use, by the zealous hand of my friend, the Rev. W. R. Alger, of Boston, U.S. With the exception of the last piece but one, which is new, the papers comprised in it have been published before, and have nothing to plead in excuse for their reappearance, except that many of them, being either out of print or buried in Reviews, had become prematurely inaccessible. For the friendly estimate to which they owe their preservation in more permanent form, I desire to express my grateful acknowledgments. Whether ratified or not by a more public judgment, it gives assurance of that kind of sympathy which best delivers the solitary student from his self-distrust.

The reader will be at no loss how to divide the responsibility of this volume between my editor and myself. For the contents of the papers, taken separately, I alone am answerable. Their selection, their grouping, and the common title, which brings them into a certain unity, are due to editorial care.

We cannot agree with this. The avowed publication of a name on a title-page involves the author's responsibility for every detail; for arrangement and selection, as well as for the matter presented. This is not a very cardinal point of objection. It is the only one we believe ought to be strongly alleged against the book; and we clear our conscience of it at once. The same rule would have justified Mr. Macaulay, if, supposing Mr. Vizetelly's publication of his speeches had been made in America, their author had introduced them as a collection and reprint to the English public, with his name put on the title-page by himself, along with a new preface, disclaiming responsibility in the matter. But if Mr. Macaulay had done so, instead of adopting the wise course which in self-defence he pursued, the present and the future could have most fairly alleged against him an undue disregard for historical accuracy easily to be secured. We believe that Mr. Martineau is satisfied with the "editorial care," else he would not have stood by its results. Practically, therefore, he is responsible for all.

Mr. Martineau has been for years before the public in anonymous literature, and more than once as the avowed author of separate works. It is not therefore necessary, *de novo*, fully to criticise his style and literary character. It is enough to say that here we have, as before, his easy flow, his capacity for lucid exposition of somewhat recondite subjects, and his choice selection of appropriate and elegant language. Here, too, we have, as before, his considerable tendency to over-theorising and refinement, and the attempt to solve things unexplainable.

The book has a biographic and historic interest. It shows the growth of the writer's own mind; and it contains his contemporary opinion and criticism on many notable books, and new presentations of doctrines, contained within the last thirty years. The dates of first publication are affixed to each paper, and range from 1839 to the present year. And such titles of articles in the contents, as "Creed and Heresies of early Christianity," "The Creed of Christendom," "The Restoration of Belief," and "St. Paul and his Modern Students;" lead you to expect, when you refer to their re-

spective pages, as you do find to be the case, that the important works on these subjects, of Messrs. Bunsen, Rathbone Greg, Conybear, Stanley, and Jowett, are to be treated and commented on.

Mr. Martineau says in his first paper on "Distinctive Types of Christianity"—which is evidently intended to be introductory in purpose as well as in position—

It is an obvious, yet little noticed consequence of the invention of printing, that no one mood of feeling or school of thought can tyrannise over a generation of mankind, and sweep all before it, as of old; and then again, with change in the intellectual season, rot utterly away, and give place to a successor no less absolute. Generations and ages now live in presence of each other; the impulse of the present is restrained by the counsels of the past, and in fighting for the throne of the human mind, finds it not only strong in living prepossession, but guarded by shadowy sentinels, encircled by a band of immortals.

This is fine writing; but it is more—it is true, and obviously so. And hence the value of such a book as this, which re-collects for us from partial obscurity well-weighed opinions, written upon doctrines when they first took to themselves new utterances and advocacy, and which are still amongst us, fighting for supremacy over our minds. You can trace for centuries as clear a succession in the dynasty of thought as you can run up the pedigree of German Kaisers or English kings. The arch-thought-rulers leap to your recollection at once; such names as Plato, Augustine, Abelard, Aristotle, Aquinas, Ramus, Des Cartes, asserting special and paramount prominence. Then come the republics, or at least divided empires, which Mr. Martineau rightly says have existed since the effects of printing had full time to develop themselves. Locke and Leibnitz concurrently founding schools—Voltaire and Butler, each at the same time gaining an independent and lasting sway—Stewart and Brown skimming over the mind of man at Edinburgh—Kant and Hegel digging through it, into infinity, at Königsberg and Berlin.

We need hardly say, that in the midst of polemics, Mr. Martineau is never angrily polemical; that he is fair and candid in argument, and never shrinks from showing his whole front and unfurling every fold of his banner. The book may well be read by those to whom it is new, and will acquire an additional value to those who have read it in its scattered parts.

THE PATNA CRISIS.

The Patna Crisis. By W. Tayler. Nisbet and Co. No history of the Indian rebellion—we cannot bring ourselves to call it a military mutiny—will be complete unless use is made of the important materials in this small volume. The book, hardly more than pamphlet size, contains an account of the events which occurred at Patna, between the 20th May and the 11th August, 1857. Mr. Tayler, it will be recollected, obtained a considerable share of public attention in consequence of his abrupt dismissal from his post by the Governor-General of India. Mr. Tayler was Commissioner of Patna during the height of the rebellion. Suddenly he was deprived of his appointment—he remained unemployed for seven months, and then was placed in a post of lower grade. Feeling his character compromised, he proceeds in a nervous pamphlet to lay before the world the circumstances, leaving it to pronounce its verdict on his case. Here is Mr. Tayler's statement:—

And what is the crime of which he stands accused? It must surely be of a strange and unusual character to be compatible with so much wise judgment and vigorous action? His crime is, that at a time when Behar was trembling in the balance between loyalty and rebellion, between order and anarchy, he directed, or suggested, the withdrawal of the civil officers and Christian residents from several out-stations, and the concentration at Patna of the scattered forces.

It appears that symptoms of an insurrectionary spirit in Behar had been observed by Mr. Tayler for two years previous to the outbreak in 1856, and that he had communicated with the Government, which resulted in a proclamation explaining matters that had alarmed and aroused both Mohammedan and Hindoo. Subsequent events proved that Mr. Tayler's representations were founded on facts. After the outbreak at Meerut and Delhi had occurred, it became necessary to take precautions to meet and suppress mutinous demonstrations at Patna. The narrative here becomes intensely interesting, and taking the statements for granted, no praise can be too high to award to Mr. Tayler

for the energy, sagacity, and promptitude he displayed in this most trying crisis:—

The conviction of all intelligent residents in the province, the common, nay, the daily saying was, that the safety of all the division depended upon Patna—that if Patna fell, every other district would be involved in ruin. It may, therefore, be imagined, that with all these symptoms of disaffection around us, three regiments on the eve of revolt, an immense Mahomedan population on all sides of us, whose loyalty and good-feeling it was impossible not to distrust, a treasury amounting at one time to more than thirty lakhs of rupees, opium to the value of several crores, a large Christian population, and a noble province in my hands, my own name, and all that was dearest to me in this life in my keeping, and all looking up to me for protection and safety; at such a crisis, it may well be imagined how intense was my anxiety, what a burden of responsibility weighed upon my mind.

After a long and careful consideration, feeling an irresistible conviction that mischief was brewing, notwithstanding the assurances of the police, and the continual outward appearance of safety, reflecting deeply upon the awful consequences of an outbreak at Patna, and of the smallest advantage gained by the insurgents or conspirators of the town, knowing well that the people with whom we had to deal are as cowardly as they are ferocious, I came to the determination in my own mind to take the initiative against the town, and deprive the disaffected, as far as I might, of all power of mischief.

The Wahabee Moulvees were the enemies most to be dreaded, from the complete subservience in which they held their disciples, or mureeds.

There were in the city of Patna several well-known Moulvees of this sect, little, shrivelled, skin-dried men, of contemptible appearance, and plain manners, but holding undisputed sway over a crowd of tailors, butchers, and low-born followers of every description, who would sacrifice everything at their beck.

And these men Mr. Taylor determined privately to arrest. Accordingly he summoned a council of the principal men of the city, the Moulvees included, having at hand a sufficient force to overpower the Moulvees and their adherents, should resistance be attempted. When the sitting was over, and the Moulvees rose to depart, they were politely requested to remain, and were informed that they would be kept in safe custody until less troublous times arrived.

With wonderful presence of mind, and a politeness of manner worthy of all admiration, Ahmed Oollah placed his hands together, and said, "Great is your Excellency's kindness, great your wisdom, what you order is the best for your slaves, so shall our enemies be unable to bring false charges against us."

To which I replied, "What is pleasing to you, is agreeable to me," and smiles and salutations were exchanged.

The Moulvees secured, the disarming of the city followed, and some of the inhabitants having been found in correspondence with the mutineers, they were arrested. Among them Peer Ali, who was brought before the council.

Heavily fettered, his soiled garments stained deeply with blood from a wound in his side, confronted with myself and several other English gentlemen, the last hope of life departed, not for a moment did he betray agitation, despondency, or fear.

On being asked whether he could do anything to make it worth while to spare his life, he answered with supreme coolness and some contempt: "There are some cases in which it is good to save life, others in which it is better to lose it." He then taunted me with the oppression I had exercised, and concluded his speech by saying, "You may hang me, or such as me, every day, but thousands will rise in my place, and your object will never be gained."

After this defiance, he joined his manacled hands, and said, with the utmost politeness, as if he was on the best of terms with himself, the world, and me, "I have something to ask."— "Well, what is it? Speak."—"My house?"—"It will be razed to the ground."—"My property?"—"It will be confiscated."—"My children?" and here, for the first time, his voice faltered and his tone betrayed emotion. On my asking him where his children were, he said they were in Oude, and all I could tell him was, that, under the circumstances of that country, it was impossible to make either guess or promise in regard to them.

He then salamed, respectfully rose, on the order being given, and walked out unmoved, and, to all appearance, unconcerned.

Surely out of such stuff heroes are made. The splendid victory of Major Eyre rendered further precautionary measures needless. But it placed Mr. Taylor in a false position with his superiors. His forecast was deprecated, his precautions were derided, and himself degraded. As we before remarked, assuming the statements to remain undis-

proved—and they bear all the marks of truth about them—Mr. Taylor has triumphantly vindicated himself, and has thrown on his detractors the onus of proving that their proceedings were justifiable.

PHYSIC AND ITS PHASES.

Physic and its Phases. A Didactic Poem, in Six Books. By Alciphron. 2nd Edition. Simpkin and Marshall.

THIS is a poetical onslaught on the various medical schools—the calomel, bleeding, and purging prescribers—the liver, the heart, the stomach practitioners—in favour of another school, the "Chronothermal," or the law of periodicity and intermittency of disease developed by Dr. Samuel Dickson, and supported by doses of quinine, strychnine, and arsenic. The author broadly states his belief that the brain is the primal seat of all disease, and that tonics, and not diaphoretic, are what ought to be resorted to in the thousand "ills that flesh is heir to." It is evident that here "doctors differ;" the critic will not attempt to reconcile oppositions which he candidly avows are beyond his comprehension. The verse is smooth and flowing, and the subject is handled with vigour and right good-will. The poet is certainly entitled to the thanks of society for his honest denunciation of the indecent and unnecessary, and almost invariable, resort to man midwifery. Here is a sample of the versification and well deserved vituperation of the modern practice:—

Talk of the sanctity of married life—
Nation of fools! who thus degrade the wife!
At such a moment, when the modest mind
Shrinks from the succour of her nearest kind,
Could you do worse, were she a courtesan,
Than to her chamber introduce a man!

DIVES AND LAZARUS.

Dives and Lazarus; or, the Adventures of an Obscure Medical Man in a Low Neighbourhood. Judd and Glass.

SOME passages from the *Diary of a Late Physician* will recur to the reader of this little work. The author may not have intended imitation, but having chosen the same range of subjects, and adopted a somewhat similar style of composition, the parallel will make itself obviously visible. This is not remarked by way of depreciation, on the contrary, it is noticed because we wish to add that the author of *Dives and Lazarus* appears to have a more genial mind and a more charitable purpose in view than had the author of the masterly, but melodramatic pages of the "passages." The author takes his reader through scenes of familiar, every-day life—brings him acquainted with the sorrows and sufferings of the poor—and, without exaggerating the aspect of sharp poverty, and the countless train of positive misfortunes which the honest as well as dishonest are alike exposed to, contrives to enlist his readers' sympathies forcibly, and to place before them some wholesome social truths and existing phases of life. One feature is conspicuous throughout the little work—the liberal and common-sense views of the writer. We have no sweeping diatribes against poor-law guardians, overseers, the wealthy or the titled; the poor are not described as virtuous martyrs, nor are the rich caricatured as the incarnation of selfishness.

We should like a more extended work from the same pen—a work that would show the world what "London labour and London poor" really are—a work that has yet to be truthfully written.

STANDARD WORK ON PHOTOGRAPHY.

A Dictionary of Photography. By Thomas Sutton, B.A., Editor of "Photographic Notes." (The Chemical Articles of A. B. C. by John Worden.) Illustrated with Diagrams. Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

We were informed but a few days ago by an amateur photographer of our acquaintance that during a period of about eight months he had expended not less than eighty pounds upon plant and materials. In his desire to master this beautiful art economically, and, at the same time, practically, he had drifted about, we conceive, from one establishment to another, purchased tracts by various hands in advocacy of particular processes, and had been, in fine, floundering among cunning devices to supersede the necessity of sound knowledge and manual dexterity. To the latter of these qualifications no "royal road" exists that we are yet aware of; but the amateur might have gained much of the former and economised his outlay to a considerable extent had he, before he rushed into the market for cameras and chemicals, pondered diligently over some well-digested body of information, prepared for his use by a practical man, from which he might learn at least the dangers of precipitancy.

We do not advance that the work before us is the best elementary work upon the science or practice of photography to place in the hands of a novice. We have seen several cheaper books better adapted for his use. Those of Mr. Hardwick and Mr. Lake Price are also valuable, giving as they do instruction and direction in full for field practice. But as, what it simply professes to be, a useful stepping-stone for the practical photographer towards a comprehension of optical and chemical principles of the art, and a record of its present state, we can quite set the value of Mr. Sutton's production. That gentleman being well known as a practitioner of the art, and as conductor of the serial termed "Photographic Notes," we have no doubt that a welcome already awaits his compendium from a considerable circle who are already, more or less, acquainted with his writings, and the activity with which he has for some time past supported his

Tales from Blackwood. Vol. II. Edinburgh: (Blackwood and Sons).—Wit, wisdom, and genial humour, and the names of Hamlet, Magioni, Aytoun, McNish, are convertible terms. The second volume of these gatherings from *Maga* is a worthy companion of the first. It would be a work of supererogation, indeed, to say one word in praise of literary excellence that has already received the ineffaceable stamp of popular approval.

The Arts.

THEATRES AND PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS.

CRYSTAL PALACE. MOONLIGHT DISPLAY OF THE FOUNTAINS.—On Tuesday evening, pursuant to notice, we found ourselves at the London-bridge Station, *en route* for the above spectacle, not without some misgivings as to the presence of our lady the Moon, whose countenance the Directors of the Crystal Palace, ever anxious to exchange new sources of delight for public pence, had reckoned on, as it seemed without due assurance. But though forbidden clouds trooped after one another over the background of most leaden hue, there was still the probability that the fair luminary might capriciously select Sydenham for favours denied to the metropolis; and that, in fact, we might be found out if we ventured to assert, as we were half inclined to do, that she had not graced the evening fete with her presence. We took the train, therefore, and in due time found ourselves upon the steps of the grand entrance, among a number of eager expectants. A solemn stillness reigned around, broken only by the simplest remarks *de lunatico inquirendo*, and here and there, by a half-heard and unseemly wager, censured as soon as uttered by the moral police of the solemn crowd. Not a drum was heard, nor a corнет's note to lighten the pressure of the gloom, as it descended upon the spirits of the company; and the gush of the fountains as, true to time, they sprang aloft to catch the last flicker of the twilight, was hailed rather as an order of release than a prelude to new pleasure. It seemed as though the treacherous goddess had but waited this signal to be revenged for our presumption by showing what favour she might have bestowed, and what beauty she might have lent to the scene; for ere the fairy columns had subsided, she had thrown off her outer robe, cleared a huge blue-green space around her, and though yet swathed in one small fleecy cloud bound to her form with tender filaments of black, loosed enough light to silver a few distant points, and make us feel the heat we had been put to through her coquetry. The grounds and building were soon left in darkness by the many whose persistency had induced them to "see it out," and on the thickly-crowded platform no sentiments were heard but regret for the ill success of the effort to give pleasure, appreciation of its good intent, and hope for "better luck next time." We are inclined to regard the affair as a mere experiment to test the capability of the place for evening entertainments, and the extent of encouragement the public are likely to bestow upon night amusements at such a distance from town. It seems probable from the large attendance on Tuesday of persons who were almost certain of disappointment before starting, that were music—indispensable music—and perhaps fireworks, exhibited at the "Crystal Palace

"Soirées" during the month or two of real summer we are entitled to hope for in this country, there would be no lack of visitors and no fear of disorder. On Saturday, the 18th, and on Wednesday last, we attended the two supplementary fêtes of the Early Clipping Association, an institution we have always delighted to honour. The entertainments of Saturday, in addition to athletic amusements, comprised a selection of pieces admirably performed by Mr. James Coward on the great festival organ, and an excellent concert, supported by Madame Clara Novello, Madame Weiss, Miss Ransford, and Mr. Weiss. The fête of Wednesday, though not equally favoured by the weather, was as well attended, the company numbering, as we were given to understand, more than ten thousand souls, who intensely relished the athletic games of the Foot Guards, the archery, the racing, the club-feats of Harrison, and the fountains, as far as permitted by the rain, which chose that inopportune moment for its descent. We can congratulate the directors upon the strictly "popular" character of yesterday's gathering. We watch their progress in this direction with interest, convinced that it is their only road to success. The satisfaction of the crowd and of the performers in the sports were alike gratifying to witness, and warrant our expectation that in a year or two we may assist at some metropolitan meetings on a gigantic and yet more profitable scale. While we are disposed to give the company and their charitable contractors, the renowned Messrs. Sawyer and Co., every credit due to them, let us suggest the hardship, and, if the attendance of the sober masses is to be cultivated, the impolicy of charging fourpence for a cup of tea. This is one of those important trifles to which the interest of the proprietary requires attention. We all know for what a cup of average tea is purchaseable in town, and it is not to be supposed that any enormous enhancement in its cost can occur between Cornhill and the Crystal Palace. We may be assured that the royalty paid to the Company by Messrs. Sawyer and Strange must be raised somehow, and that the consumers of particular articles cannot be exempted from the taxation which those contractors are thus compelled to levy. But we know enough of John Bull to believe that he will abstain from places of amusement rather than be either fed or overcharged, and we imagine, if the public once took alarm on this head, that the maintenance of the two-penny overcharge required to support the twopenny royalty would be found to keep away a more than equivalent number of shilling visitors. We understand that Mademoiselle Piccolomini will take leave of the English public at a farewell concert at the Crystal Palace, on Tuesday, the 28th inst. She sails from Southampton for a lengthened tour in the United States, on the following day.

STRAND THEATRE.—Mr. Charles Selby cannot certainly complain, as many may with truth, that he has no field, no scope, no opportunity; for, in addition to his still successful and really pleasing *comedietta*, *The Last of the Pigtails*, and before its freshness has in the least faded, the Strand management have availed themselves of another of his productions, at the same time affording him another opportunity of displaying his talent on the stage. *The Bonnie Fishwife* is a bagatelle of the light, gay, and rapid order, without any wonderful amount of what is called unity, or of that anti-hilarious stiffness which results sometimes from the laborious pursuit of it. The hero of the piece, *Widow's Heartcheer*—very agreeably acted and most becomingly dressed by Mr. Parcell—frail, yet with a rare good fellow, is desired, in the usual authoritative manner of stage fathers, by his genial parent, *Sir Hickory* (Selby), to put an end to his youthful follies by a marriage with one *Miss Thistledown* (Miss M. Oliver), a rich and accomplished Devonshire heiress, whom, in his hot and jaundiced opposition to the parental behest, he has pictured to himself as a perfect Gorgon. Sooner than be made happy with such a being upon compulsion, he retreats, but not unobserved by the family, to a Scottish bothie, to indulge in wild sports and a passion conceived during the previous season for a bonnie little fishwife, *Maggie McFarlane*. He renounces his vows; but being rather shy on the question of matrimony, her parents, *Mr. McFarlane*, late of the 4th, a besotted old Gael, and his hideous Meg Merrilles of a spouse, are inclined to treat him with scant courtesy. Mollified, however, by his declaration of honourable intentions, this pair indulge for joy in a wild Highland fling, and having consented to the union, discover themselves to be the gay old baronet and his valet *Gaiters* (J. Clarke), who have made *Miss Thistledown*, alias *Maggie*, their accomplice in this masquerade to test the heart of the scapegrace heir, and to ensure and hasten his extrication from his erratic orbit. Miss M. Oliver, as the drawing-room belle and the broad Scotch lassie, displayed her usual intelligence and grace, as well as a degree of vocal talent that ensured warm *encores* for her songs, "Love's sweet summer," and "Who'll buy my caller herring?" although we must observe that

the fair vocalist might even add to the very pleasing effect of her singing and save herself needless exertion by the adoption of a somewhat slower *tempo*. Neither the popular author of the *Bonnie Fishwife*, nor his worthy second, Mr. Clarke, who were both excessively amusing in their Scotch disguises, are very successful in their Highland dialect, but we can, nevertheless, quite endorse the lively approbation bestowed by a numerous audience upon this elegant trifle.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—Mr. Oxenford's admirable little comedy, *The Doubtful Victory*, with the ever popular Mrs. Stirling, *Hush Money*, and *Ticklish Times*, were chosen by Mr. Robson for the opening of his winter campaign. This well-established favourite, who seems to have brought back with him a fresh stock of physical and mental energy, was received with every manifestation of delight by a crowd of visitors, of whom "the groundling" especially found undoubted cause of satisfaction in the substitution of cushions for the well-worn knife-boards, for the hardship of which they have been used to be contented for the sake of "seeing Robson."

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE.—On Saturday last Mr. Phelps reproduced Sir E. L. Bulwer's *Richelieu*, in which this eminent actor has always reaped new laurels. The interesting part of *Julia* was confided to Miss Grace Egerton, a débutante of whom it is at present sufficient to observe that she has decided capabilities requiring a degree of development which, if permitted the continuous advantage of a position in Mr. Phelps's company, she can secure, and will doubtless profit by.

ENGLISH OPERA, DRURY LANE.—The *Rose of Castile* continues to be so attractive that we have still no report to give of the expected production of Flotow's *Martha*. Anxiously as we may look for that pleasure, we are yet glad to learn that this spirited enterprise, which, when first undertaken by Mr. Harrison, was, to say the least, hazardous, has assumed so satisfactory a complexion as to decide him against the production for the present of any other work—in fact, to "let well alone."

LYCEUM THEATRE.—While we gladly welcome the reappearance of Mr. Leigh Murray upon these boards (we hope for a longer engagement), and his successful adoption of the part of *Frank Hawthorne*, in the comedy of *Extremes*, we can hardly part with Mr. Falconer, who, while seeking the right man for the right place, himself filled the part of his hero, without a kind and commendatory adieu. His addition of Mr. Leigh Murray (who appeared on Thursday evening) to the cast of his play is certainly advantageous, for whom could he have found better, nay, so skilled in the delivery of the *Hawthorne* sarcasms, or of the noble resignation of wife, love, hope, and fortune, in the last act? Mr. Murray, who was fully as successful as we had anticipated, and warmly welcomed by troops of friends and admirers, exerted himself to the utmost. So did the ever-fascinating Miss Woolgar; and Emery, who has mightily improved his costume as *Robin*. So, again, did Mrs. Weston, who, as glorious old dame *Wildbrain*, takes our hearts by storm as well as our sense of comedy. To conclude, we must say that although some of the redundancies have, as suggested by ourselves and all our contemporaries, been pruned away, the play is still—pardon us, gentle author—really a full half hour too long. It drags, and somehow will drag, though even the slowest of its portions, we must confess, find favour with some part of the audience. It must be either too long, or the dramatic persons must all "take the time," as musicians say, too slow. It seems to us that if the fire were a bit concentrated, the steam would be brisker, the whole train of the piece get on faster, and the *Extremes* would meet with even greater success than it has already so fairly earned. A new divertissement by John Lauri, called the *Rendezvous*, now follows the comedy, in which the Lauri family, an admirable company of comic dancers, or as some one has better said, *boufe* dancers, have made a great sensation among the amateurs of the ballet. We have pleasure in attracting attention to the announcement that Mr. J. Kinloch, a very worthy and well appreciated member of the profession, proposes to take a benefit at this theatre on Wednesday next, when Mr. Falconer's comedy, and other entertainments, will be produced.

ROYAL DRAMATIC COLLEGE.—At the meeting of the executive committee at the Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday last, Mr. Webster in the chair, many new subscriptions were announced, and among them most gratifying one of 114L 16s. 6d., the result of benefits at the Bath and Bristol Theatres. The very feeling letter of Mr. James Henry Chute, covering the remittance, says that, "performers, musicians, the press, printers, gas company's servants, doorkeepers, and supernumeraries gave, and gave cheerfully." This was something like a benefit. The charity of the givers demands recognition at the hands of all friends of the drama, and its imitation throughout the profession would support a noble institution indeed.

INDIA.

WILL THE ENGLISH RACE DEGENERATE?

A FAVOURITE objection to English settlement in the hill regions of India, is that the race will degenerate and in the fourth generation become extinct. These views are boldly put forth by some of the so-called practical men connected with India, but strangely enough there is no proof of degeneracy in the hill children, and as the first cottage in Simla itself was only built by Lieutenant Ross in 1819, and as a fourth generation has not yet been born, and no generation has become extinct, there is not a tittle of evidence to support the notions. Mr. Ranald Martin, Captain Ouchterlony, Colonel Onslow, and other witnesses connected with the hills, all bear evidence that the English children are ruddy and healthy, and as fine-grown as can be desired, and many of the hill climates are considered particularly favourable to them. It is strange, but none the less true, that the theory of degeneracy has been very widely propagated and is seriously discussed, being one of the cunning and paltry devices put forward to obstruct English settlement in India, the opponents of which stop at no invention. Thus we were told officially, with respect to some of the finest countries in the world, that they could produce nothing, and that there was not a field a hundred feet square to be got in them. The degeneracy doctrine belongs to the same class of inventions, but being propagated by men connected with India is believed in by many and is acting prejudicially: because it is held to be quite futile to send English settlers to India, as their offspring must degenerate, and become extinct, without creating any permanent English population in India.

The reason for this zeal in checking emigration is the simple one that the parties still desire to exclude Englishmen from India, in order that they may, if possible, retain the government in their own hands, unrestrained by an active and enlightened English public; and also keep the whole population within their territories subject to the Black Act. On the other hand, all the authorities connected with the hill and upland regions—Colonel Onslow, Dr. Archibald Campbell, Lord J. Hay, Captain Ouchterlony, and the other superintendents and ex-superintendents of the hills, are strenuous in inviting English settlers, and have been supported by the home and supreme Governments in giving liberal grants of land and every facility to settlers, civil and military.

If the assertion were true that the English race degenerates in the hill regions of India, it would be a very serious matter; at all events it is worth consideration, and the more so as the supporters of it have taken upon themselves to revive the notion that the English race is degenerating and dying out in the United States, and that the same fate attends it in Australia. While the world at large believes that our race has made good its footing in the northern continent of America and is extending in Australia and South Africa, there are not wanting some who pronounce its doom. The degeneration theory is allowed to be propagated with the less check because there is among the public a favourite theory that the English are a mixed race, a special compound of Romans, Welsh, English, Danes, and Normans; and this doctrine leads to very confused ethnological notions.

The subject has this disadvantage, that the facts have never been properly brought together. There is consequently no agreement on the premises, and the laws which affect the characteristics of race are by no means well determined. The same persons who are most ardent in broaching the theory of degeneracy of race—that is, the loss of the characteristics or permanent distinctions of race—do not admit that there are permanent distinctions of race, or that the Anglo-Saxon race possesses such distinctions. The subject, however, is one which can be more favourably studied by the observant Indian than by any member of the community, because, in India, there is such a variety of races, so many hybrids and so many of varying periods of introduction, as to afford good scope for the discussion of the phenomena. These facts could be brought to bear upon the question now under discussion, and would materially assist in determining it.

What is the English race, which is to be subject to degeneracy and extinction, ought to be the first point

decided, and then when and where it is to degenerate. In the beginning we must carefully discriminate as to the various classes of settlers we send to India. There are the Englishmen of England, of the lowlands of Scotland, of north-east Scotland, and of the families scattered in Ireland; there are Welsh; and there are the Irish of Ireland, of the highlands of Scotland, of the reimportation of north Scotland into Ulster, and those born of Irish parents, immigrants in England and the lowlands. Among the upper and middle classes, the English and Celtic families are to some degree intermixed, though not to the extent supposed, but among the bulk of the population the separation of the races is better established. Thus in England, for instance, the Irish colonies remain as distinct from the surrounding population as the Parsee colonies do in India. Not only do the Irish immigrants live in distinct communities or rookeries, but intermarriage with the English is checked by mutual repulsion. On the one side there is a disposition of the Irish to marry in their own communities, and on the other, a great indisposition of the English to intermarry. The English mechanic who marries an Irishwoman will have the reproach "Irish" cast on her and on his children and grandchildren, nor does the beauty of the handsomer races among the Irish population compensate for disagreeable differences of habits and religion. An Englishwoman has little inducement to marry an Irishman, as well from the like causes as because his position and earnings are inferior. Thus the Irish born in England are thrown back on the rookery, as a Jew in Italy on the Ghetto, and their names and Roman Catholic associations tend to mark them out for separation.

It is from the community generally that the mass of emigrants will be taken, and then we obtain, as in America or Australia, distinct classification of English and Irish emigrants, the mixed families counting for little as against the defined masses. The argument of degeneracy and extinction will, it is to be presumed, apply equally to the two races, but as the English race contributes the greater and more important body of emigrants, it will be more convenient to consider the case of the English alone.

In order that the English in India should degenerate from a given standard, it is requisite that that standard should be defined and admitted. If the English in England are really a mixed race equivalent to the coloured races in the United States, the mettees in South America, the half-castes or the Portuguese in India, then they can only be admitted to have characteristics fluctuating as the constituent races predominate or decline. Coloured races, for instance, become more or less black, but if the English be a true race, then their characteristics will be permanent.

The student who examines the ancient sculptures and paintings of men in the buildings of India, Assyria, or Egypt, is at once impressed by one fact, the resemblance between the features there represented and those of existing populations; that is, in other words, though the consequence is not so readily admitted, the identity and permanence of ethnological distinction of the ancient and modern individual of the same race:—this such of us as cannot go to India can witness in the East India Museum or the British Museum, where we have records of some two thousand and three thousand years, recording the unaltered features of many great and well-known races, as well of Indo-European, as of Jew, Arab, Nubian, and negro. If these characteristics have borne the test of so many centuries, we may believe they will continue immutable for centuries to come.

If the English race be fluctuating, it will not have these conditions; but then we cannot test the English as we do the Nubian, the negro, or the Jew. We have no records of thirty centuries; but we have still records available; for if we examine the earliest portraits of masses of Englishmen, we shall find no material difference of features from those of the present day, however dress and fashion may vary. Let us take the men or women of Elizabeth's time, for instance, in a picture gallery or collection of engravings, and they present us with countenances thoroughly English. If we examine contemporary French portraits, we find features thoroughly French; and we have like evidence as to the Italians, the Spaniards, and the Dutch. So step by step, in the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries, we obtain the like evidence of an English race with durable characteristics.

To maintain a mixed race under the like conditions of uniformity would be almost impossible—mathematically and physiologically, quite impossible—for, though races may have intercourse and produce offspring, there is no evidence that mixed races can be permanently maintained, but, on the contrary, the strongest evidence that they must be brought back to one of the original stocks, or perish. As a matter of favourite theory, it being assumed that the English are a mixed race, and by some analogy with mixed races of sheep and horses, and new varieties of flowers and fruit, it being supposed that mixture is absolutely essential to produce a superior race, the law is laid down that the English being a superior race, they can only have been produced by mixture. This self-assertion does not, however, bear the test of evidence, for the other nations of Europe—the French, the Spaniards, the Italians, the Hollander, the Portuguese, the Danes, the Swedes, the Germans—cannot so easily be brought to this category of mixture, and, indeed, the whole hypothesis is altogether inconsistent. According to popular notions some ethnological compound has by a wonderful chance been hit upon in these islands, which makes the English the first race in the world; but we are likewise to believe that this wonderful compound does not answer when transplanted to the Western World or to India, where in climates equally temperate and under the like circumstances it altogether fails to ensure permanent ethnological perfection.

The English elements of the race have been transplanted from the Continent to Britain, so have the Celtic elements, and, for anything we know, have passed from Asia even; and yet they tell us that to get back to Asia and India involves the doom of degeneracy, and a removal of twelve hundred miles westward produces the like consequences! The more we reflect on such phantasies, the less satisfied we must become, but some who have a political object to serve have very ready faith and very zealous propagandism.

THE COTTON MOVEMENT.

AMONG the influences operating to produce a state of transition in India, the change of government from double to single is not the only one of importance. There are many others, concurrent or subsidiary, which are effectively and uniformly at work towards bringing that vast domain more under the control of home opinion. Among these influences may be enumerated the societies engaged in agitation, which are now acquiring greater prominence and a character of permanency in England and India, and constituting a powerful organisation. We can readily bring to mind the British India Society, the Indian Reform League, the Indigo Planters Society, the Society for Promoting English Settlement and English Progress in India, the Cotton Association, and in the list the Missionary Societies ought to be included, which are now raising special funds for propagandist and educational purposes. Many societies established for home objects are turning their attention to India, and we believe we may include the Decimal Association, who have among their objects a uniformity of the florin and the rupee. The British and Foreign Slavery Society have long kept their eye on India, and for what we know the Vote by Ballot Society may seek it as a field for agitation. Add to all the societies, India and China commercial associations and chambers of commerce, including the Joint Salt Committee, and a large amount of associative power is brought to bear on the Home Government, and directly or indirectly on the Supreme and Local Governments of India. The Indian Railway and other improvement companies have the same tendency; they are apt to bring to a corporate influence to affect the Government, and by enlisting large numbers of shareholders, who acquire an interest in Indian matters, the field of agitation is extended.

What some will regret others will cheerfully hail, and, however abundant the interference of some of these societies may be, on the whole they will greatly strengthen the Government of India. Whoever reads the famous apology of the Company will see in that measure how, with the best will and the most enlightened policy, the supreme Government has been able to do very little for India, and how, in fact, the whole of the great reforms, social, economical, and financial, that have been effected, have been carried in defiance of strong opposition, the Government being always in advance of native opinion, and yet not always so strongly supported at home, or so sufficiently provided with resources, as to be able to accomplish their desires to the full. Many great industrial measures have been accomplished, and among those that have been successful we may name the tea cultivation, which is really a result of Government care and labour; but, on the other hand, there are many measures for which the Government has

laboured greatly and without achieving the desired success. We might refer to undertakings of moral or social improvement instead of industrial, but the latter may be more easily discussed, and as we gave tea as an example on one side, so we may speak of cotton and iron on the other.

So far as will be concerned, or so far as effort can be made, the Indian Government has made great exertions to extend the cotton cultivation, and some progress has been made, but the full measure of success has been by no means obtained, because the Government is not strong enough of itself. To give full scope to the cotton cultivation such changes must be made in the administration of India as the various authorities are unwilling to institute for the mere promotion of cotton growth; and then a degree of practical European co-operation is required, which no Government can furnish, because a Government cannot furnish private enterprise even though it could find a large number of Europeans, and if the Government could export superintendents and machinists, it could not export English merchants, nor an English community. The cotton supply associations instituted at Manchester will become an instrument for supporting very powerfully the exertions of the Government. There may be some subordinate officials, or some abid Indians like Colonel Sykes, who may choose to represent that nothing ought to be done for cotton-growing, or that more than enough has been done, but from Lord Stanley downwards there are too many men in the Government of India connected with the Lancashire interests to admit of the least hesitation in adopting every reasonable and practicable measure for achieving an object of common interest to India and England: and though a severance of interests is now attempted to be set up by the ultra Indians, who say India alone is to be looked to, such a community of interests has now been established that the whole empire, and the consideration of mutual advantage, must be legislated for. India is to be legislated for on Cape interests in the matter of horses, on Mauritius interests in the matter of coolies, and on Australian interests in the matter of sugar, for with the progress India has made under our Government there is hardly one of our possessions to which a large trade with India is not carried on, and it is by the expansion of these relations, by the increase of the exports of India, by the increase of her imports, and by the interchange of articles of necessity and enjoyment, that to some extent the improvement in the social condition of the native population is to be promoted.

The Cotton Supply Association includes in its organisation the firms which are the consumers of cotton, and others by which the trade in the raw and manufactured material is carried on. It has received considerable funds and the co-operation of many patriotic individuals. Of individual contributions we may particularise those of Miss Burdett Coutts, who gave 200*l.* and a subscription of 100*l.* for five years, and of Messrs. T. and R. Baines of 100*l.* for five years. It is observable as a feature in this institution that the bulk of its subscriptions are contributed for five years, so that its operations have in so far a basis of solidity. They will not fall to the ground in a year or two, but will be continued over such a period that either all legitimate prospect of success will have been exhausted, or such success will have been obtained, as will justify further exertions being made. The arrangement is a sagacious one and gives practical weight to the Association. No minister will treat it with contempt in the hope that the excitement of the moment will pass away, but that like many similar societies, springing up in the zeal of the day, it will fall under the neglect and coolness of a public no longer excited.

The objects of the Association embrace a wide field, for they include the promotion of the growth of cotton in all parts of the world. But practically this field is much narrowed, for with the United States and the old cotton-growing countries they can do nothing, and in many of the new countries their exertions can produce little fruit. Thus, without originally intending it, yet in effect arriving at such a conclusion, it is a society for promoting the growth of cotton in India. The operations for promoting cotton-growing in East and West Africa are most interesting, and it is to be expected permanent good will be effected by the distribution of seed, by the supply of gins, and by making the produce known in the home market, yet the most practical members of the Association, and the most active supporters of the cotton movement outside its ranks, such men as Mr. J. B. Smith, M.P., for instance, have arrived at the conviction that greater results are to be obtained from one hundred and eighty millions of people in India than from the desultory and uncertain exertions of barbarous chiefs and barbarous tribes. In India the export of cotton has by the exertions of the Government been largely extended of late years, but it will take a long period before Africa, East, West, or South, can raise the like amount of produce.

To India, therefore, the funds of the Association will be largely applied and its exertions mainly directed, and this upon the principles laid down by Mr. J. B. Smith in his paper on cotton read before the Society of Arts in the last session, and carried out by him in the examination of witnesses before Mr. Ewart's Committee. The Association see that to have cotton-growing there must

be a freehold land tenure, an improvement of the land-tax system, English law, English administrators, English in the law-courts; railways, steamboats, roads, canals, irrigation, and harbours. These works it has been the wish of the best Indian administrators to supply, and had they been able to raise a loan of a hundred millions at European rates, the public works of India would now be in a very different state from what they are described by Major-General Tremenheere and Colonel Sykes, who can only offer an apology for the intentions of the Government, instead of being able to claim the praise of extensive achievements. They can only point to one work of such men as Cautley, when the country wants a score; and the time has now come, with the new organisation of the Committee of Public Works, to enable the great administrators and great engineers of India to carry out many a deferred and long-neglected work. In this direction the specific operations of the Cotton Supply Association will be found greatly conducive to success, and a legitimate popularity will be obtained by the Council of India in promoting at one and the same time the interests of the mother country and of the colony.

Mercantile and Commercial.

THE TRADE OF AUGUST.

Through the declared value of the exports was 504,042L less, the shipping entered inwards 13,495 tons less, and the shipping cleared outwards 25,161 tons less in last August than in August, 1857, the trade in the month was large and sound. All these items were considerably in excess in the month over the averages of the same items in 1856, 1857, and the eight months of 1858, and the value of the exports and the shipping entered inwards were in excess of the same items in August, 1856. Our trade, then, continues steadily to increase, though it knows nothing of the feverish excitement which prevailed in August of the two preceding years. Of the principal imports, coffee, cotton, wheat, flour, hemp, jute, sugar, and tobacco were in excess in the month compared to the imports in August, 1857; the other principal imports, as silk, timber, wool, &c., were deficient. The declared value of cottons, both cloth and yarn, of cast and wrought iron, of lead, of stationery, of mixed woollens and worsted stuffs, exported, was greater in August, 1858, than in the August of 1857; but in the value of almost all other exports in the month there was a decline. The total declared value of exports in August was—

1856.	1857.	1858.
10,753,292L	11,638,805L	11,134,763L
And in the eight months of the three years—		
1856.	1857.	1858.
74,689,934L	84,666,718L	75,596,564L

While the average deficiency, as compared to 1857, is upwards of 1,100,000L per month, the deficiency this month is only 504,042L, at the same time the total value of exports is greater than in 1856. Our trade, then, though sound and good, approaches the extensive trade of 1857, which, till after August of that year, was in an excited and unsound state. The dullness which is continually complained of is less deficiency of vitality and vigour than the temporary feeling of languor which follows too much excitement. Other demands on our columns compel us to limit ourselves to this brief notice of the trade of August.

CHINA : WHAT OF THE NEWLY OPENED PORTS?

The most sanguine have been startled and the worst of croakers dumbstruck by the Elgin treaty with Kwei-liang and Co., the tone and terms of which really throw open the entire empire of China.

The rough outline of that treaty, as circulated in our journals, embraces fifty-six separate articles; and in glancing at these it will be obvious to any one conversant with the history of foreign intercourse with China that each concession on the part of the Chinese Government is a renunciation of some dear prejudice, and a step—whether backwards or forwards—a step in the right direction.

To point out the articles which distinctly define territorial openings in China, observe Article 9th, by which, though with passports, British subjects are to be permitted to travel for pleasure or trade to *all parts of the interior*. The italics are our own, nor do we give the terms from official documents, but as they appear in our periodical press: and it is not our purpose at present to dwell on this the most important proviso on the list, by which every barrier is broken that has hitherto opposed free ingress of foreigners "for trade or for pleasure."

Articles 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, arrange for the permanent residence at the Court of Pekin of a British Minister, *his family* and suite, and make provision for his travelling, &c. And Article 52nd concedes that any British ship of war may visit *any port* in the empire, and that the commander of said ship is to be treated on terms of equality by the Chinese officials of that port. The arrangements for trade and commerce are that, in addition to the ports already ceded, nine more shall be opened. This is laid down in Articles 10 and 11, so that, in summing up our present position, as secured by the Elgin treaty, it is just this: all parts of the *interior* may be visited for pleasure or trade under passport. The metropolis of the empire is open for the residence of a British ambassador, and his family and suite. *Any port* may be entered by a British man-of-war; and, besides the possession of Hong-Kong, there are fourteen Chinese trading ports on the banks of the Yang-tse-kiang and along the entire coast of China, where our merchant ships may lie, and in which our consuls and merchants with their families may reside. What can we want beside? Nothing else.

It will be seen that of the nine new ports, there are four along the banks of the Yang-tse-kiang. To these we will not now call attention; as it is our special purpose to detail a few particulars, interesting to our commercial readers, as to the situation, relations, and trade of the other five ports upon the coast, specified under Article 11, viz.—Niu-chwang, Tang-chow, Tai-wan, Swa-tow, and Kiung-chow.

1. To begin with the most southerly, Kiung-chow. This is situated in the province of Quang-tung and on the northern face of the island of Hainan, at the mouth of the river Le-moo, which rises about 100 miles up in the centre of the island. Kiung-chow itself is the chief town on the island, and, being what in Chinese topography is described as of the departmental order, it holds jurisdiction over 13 minor district towns, besides numberless villages and fishing hamlets. The port itself lies in 19 deg. 56 min. south latitude, and 110 deg. 15 min. east longitude, and as each place of consequence has its precise distance marked off in the imperial "Red-book," Kiung-chow is put down as at a convenient remove of 2500 miles from the dragon throne at Pekin. Facing it is the mainland, from which it is divided by a strait 16 miles in breadth, made dangerous by sandbanks and reefs. The importance of this new port may be judged from the position and products of the islands to which it belongs.

The island of Hainan is, perhaps, double the size of Sicily. Its central parts are very mountainous, and partially occupied by independent tribes which acknowledge no submission to Chinese rule. These, probably, are the Aborigines; but from the large influx of Canton and Fukien immigrants, there has arisen an enormous host of settlers that number over a million and a half. As the latter belong to progenitors of an enterprising class, it does not surprise us to find that they are given to commerce and sea-life as well as to piracy. The soil throughout is exceedingly fertile, and the productions are very much after the order of the Indian Archipelago, such as fine timber cocoa-nuts, rice, sweet potato, tobacco, white wax (from an insect), sugar, &c. Whales are also found off the coast of the island. It is not far from Cochin-China, and is, as we have said, close to the continent and opposite the provinces of Kwangtung and Quang-tung.

The harbour of Kiung-chow is reported by foreign visitors as excellent, and the anchorage has been tested to be very good in rough weather, to which, at certain seasons, the sea in that neighbourhood is subject. Besides this harbour, there are several others on the southern coast of the island.

2. Two days' sail north of Hong-Kong we have another new port, named by us, according to the local patois, Swa-tow. This (in the mandarin pronunciation Shan-tow) is a rising seaport, on a promontory in Quan-tung, close verging on the Fush Kien frontier. Its name hitherto has appeared on few published maps. Here there is a nice, convenient bay for shipping; and already, without let or hindrance, a large trade between foreigners and natives has been established. Sugar is produced in great quantities in the surrounding country; and, as the coast of Formosa lies right opposite, the trade between the two points is frequent and growing. Swa-tow town is only about 100 miles distant from Canton, to which city there

is a direct canal communication. Several foreign merchants have established connexions for some time at this port. It came into notice at first as a principle point from which coolies were hired, and shipped to distant colonies.

3. Some 200 miles south-eastward of this is the port of Tai-wan, which also figures prominently on the table of concessions made by the Chinese plenipos. Tai-wan is a name usually given by the natives to the whole island which we (barbarians) call Formosa, though properly it belongs only to the Chinese division. The Chinese jurisdiction extends over but one half of it, and that the western face, separated from the eastern by a mountainous ridge running up through the middle of the island. This portion measures some 280 miles in length, by 80 in breadth; the other section being principally occupied by aboriginal clans which claim entire independence. The city and harbour of Tai-wan lie on the south-western point of the island. This port is described by foreign visitors as commodious. The rice trade between it and the maritime provinces of China employs a numerous fleet of native craft, and other products are likely to encourage foreigners, seeing the whole island is exceedingly rich and fertile. Sugar, coal, and fine timber are spoken of as special products. Our readers will forgive us, that we insert here a brief paragraph of the expulsion of Dutch traders from this very seaport, precisely two hundred years ago, and before the Chinese had one tittle of claim to it.

The Dutch went to Tai-wan in 1624; and in course of time they made this port their headquarters and settled down. They endeavoured to exert and extend their influence over the aborigines, described as uncouth, &c., by trading, intermarriage, and proselytising. About that period the Chinese Ming dynasty was overthrown, which event drove thousands of Chinese families from the continent. They emigrated into Formosa, and were at first gladly received by the Dutch, who, however, subsequently began to regret their courteous readiness to "entertain strangers," and commenced to institute a rigorous check on fresh arrivals.

As the Mantchoo throne was being settled, a piratical chieftain appeared on the state. He is known to some readers of Chinese history as the Chinaman Coxinga. His objects were twofold, to defy the Mantchoo, and to drive out the Dutch. He succeeded in the second; and so ended the Dutch rule in the year 1658, after a brief space of scarcely forty years. But upon this the Mantchoo-Chinese authorities pressed hard upon Coxinga, expelled him in his turn, and shortly after were successful in establishing the rule of the new dynasty on the western section of Formosa. Ever since there has been a succession of emigrants from the mainland, by whose industry the once desolate island has become a well cultivated country, and deservedly bears the name Formosa.

Of the fourth and fifth additions to the seaboard ports open to European commerce, we can speak but briefly and cautiously.

The one, written Tang-chow, but pronounced *Anglaise* Tongue-chow, is somewhere about 900 miles north of Formosa, and 170 south of the Pei-ho, situate on the Shantung promontory, perhaps 50 or 60 miles inside this famous point, and washed by the waters of the Chihli Gulf. The Shantung people here are described, at least the males, as of a strapping grenadier order, as well as industrious. The exports are grains chiefly; but an appetite for foreign trade will have to be excited here, which may be done with success in judicious and skilful hands.

Niu-chwang is a seaport in China *Improper* and east of the "ten thousand lee wall," having vast connexions with the Mongol, Mantchoo, Kirin and Corean tribes, and not far away from the encroaching frontiers of "Russia in China." It is at the head of the Liao-tung gulf, and at the mouth of the River Liaoou; but, without confusing the reader with further geographical minutiae, it belongs to the Mantchoo division of the colonial possessions of "Heaven's son." The native trade is said to be flourishing here, as we may suppose, from its position and relations; and we may hope that foreign traffic, in woollens particularly, will succeed, although our rivals are already in the field, and long have been in the neighbourhood—the Russians.

We have above attempted cursorily to point out and describe the five new ports opened to foreign trade upon the coast of China. The opening of the Yang-tse-kiang, and the rich ports upon its banks, must form the theme of a subsequent article.

TRADE OF EIGHT MONTHS.

(From the Board of Trade Monthly Returns ended August 31, 1858.)

I.—IMPORTS.		II.—EXPORTS.		IV.—SHIPPING ENTERED INWARDS.					
Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.		Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.		COUNTRIES WHENCE ARRIVED.					
PRINCIPAL ARTICLES.	1857.	1858.	PRINCIPAL ARTICLES.	1857.	1858.				
ANIMALS—Cows, Bulls, & Cows .. No.	28,290	24,513	COCOA	2,172,504	2,317,679	Vessel.	1857.	1858.	
Calves ..	16,032	15,583	COFFEE	9,473,724	19,154,707	Tons.	Vessel.	Tons.	
Sheep and Lambs ..	79,443	65,200	COTTON, RAW—Total	1,006,542	782,152	Brit. Poss. North Amer.	1,109	561,400	868
Swine and Hogs ..	4,471	5,447	COTTON MANUFACTURES	87,006	73,967	East Indies	482	367,626	501
ASHES—Pearl and Pot	1,054	2,210	GUANO	15,769	17,500	Australia	100	81,581	104
BARK	220,946	190,790	HIDES, Untanned, Dry	84,622	111,000	All other Parts	1,748	945,453	1,952
BONES	31,561	44,167	Wet	40,549	45,866	For Countries—Russia	1,449	548,116	566,416
BRIMSTONE	46,158	624,547	LEATHER—Gloves	334,059	296,093	Sweden	851	153,997	174,441
BRISTLES	1,425,127	935,026	METALS—Copper	30,069	26,211	Norway	930	155,254	935
CAOUTCHOUC	11,634	15,359	Tin in Blocks	5,76	4,467	Denmark	1,132	187,978	1,067
CLOCKS and WATCHES	No.	No.	OIL—Palm	144,134	96,565	Prussia	2,109	577,876	1,069
Clocks ..	178,430	145,005	Coco Nut	77,110	70,657	Other Germ. States	1,482	310,567	1,003
Watches ..	56,969	58,053	Olive	52,688	42,426	Holland	1,421	27,441	22,541
COCOA	1,678,579	7,811,056	QUICKSILVER	1,307,438	503,875	Belgium	623	190,705	781
CORN—Wheat	Total qrs.	30,288,706	RICE, not in the Husk	1,076,106	735,693	France	2,394	328,166	4,290
Barley ..	1,807,527	5,120,216	SALT PETER	52,501	48,628	Spain	469	80,413	66,183
Oats ..	1,262,181	1,970,200	SEED—Flax and Linseed	18,502	11,240	Portugal	449	60,482	514
Peas ..	1,065,616	1,032,160	Rape	41,150	85,521	Italian States	460	105,470	55,823
Beans ..	127,564	80,999	SILK—Raw	1,861,813	1,505,974	Turkish Dominions	187	59,776	122,465
Indian Corn or Maize ..	158,600	248,516	Throws	204,542	271,561	Wallachia & Mold.	120	22,448	245
Wheat Flour	Total ewts.	326,280	MANUFACTURES—Bam- danna, Coraha, Taffaties, &c. ..	222,338	141,903	Other Europ. States	50	7,893	87
COTTON, RAW	Total	6,327,417	Pieces	700,163	201,506	Egypt	179	78,364	308
COTTON MANUFACTURES	Value £.	405,978	SPICES—Cassia Lignea	700	4,600	United States	967	913,305	1,011
CREAM OF TARTAR	ewts.	348,489	Ginger	6,400	7,458	Mexico, For. W. L. and Cen. Amer.	413	148,028	478
DYES and DYING STUFFS	ewts.	15,146	Nutmegs	1,618,910	1,369,714	Brazil	220	69,768	230
Cochineal ..	11,370	6,247	Pepper	85,292	80,295	Other States in Amer- ica, Africa, Asia	661	263,840	845
Indigo ..	50,244	41,133	SUGAR—Unrefined	171,091	187,841	Total	20,462	5,412,603	22,132
Lacody ..	5,504	7,928	Molasses	30,615	37,685	COUNTRIES TO WHICH DEPARTED.			
Logwood ..	23,689	44,953	TALLOW	18,178	12,555	BRIT. POSS. NORTH AMER.	891	375,293	759
Madder and Madder Root	ewts.	254,026	TEA	6,411,911	4,371,535	EAST INDIES	833	441,918	570
Garcuine ..	1,308	18,487	TOBACCO—Stemmed	7,349,283	5,934,496	AUSTRALIA	585	171,120	336
Shumis ..	1,026	5,637	Unstemmed	553,826	732,574	ALL OTHER PARTS	2,132	488,421	2,035
Terra Japonica ..	5,186	8,035	WINE	1,349,246	1,468,802	FOR COUNTRIES—RUSSIA	1,201	12,500	1,600
Cutch ..	645	1,377	WOOL—Sheep and Lambs	26,557,926	19,043,462	SWEDEN	694	12,644	1,981
Valonia ..	16,457	8,655	Alpacas and the Llama Tribe ..	123,071	42,471	NORWAY	2,397	77,591	501
ELEPHANTS' THETH	ewts.	3,376	WOOLLEN MANUFAC- TURES, not made up	9,576	12,294	DENMARK	582	27,412	1,851
FLAX	Total ewts.	1,026,173	Value £.			PRUSSIA	1,790	31,421	1,904
FRUIT—Currants	ewts.	112,014	APPAREL and SLOPS	1,392,294	2,195,210	OTHER GER. STATES	9,077	558,832	5,186
Lemons and Oranges	busheis.	582,757	BEER and ALE	1,128,415	1,345,855	HOLLAND	2,036	369,600	2,152
Raisins ..	ewts.	50,237	BOOKS, Printed	234,036	249,086	BELGIUM	738	140,745	696
GUANO	tona.	103,646	BUTTER	389,466	336,305	FRANCE	6,953	919,437	6,631
HAIR—Goat's Hair or Wool	lbs.	1,517,186	CANDLES, Stearine	194,576	107,497	SPAIN	1,183	239,522	1,237
Manufactures of Hair and Goat's Wool	Value £.	158,064	CHEESE	73,369	50,593	PORTUGAL	530	104,748	399
HEMP	Total ewts.	327,133	COALS and CULM	2,117,142	2,125,587	ITALIAN STATES	867	241,182	1,039
Jute ..	370,420	424,079	CORDAGH and CABLES	188,826	125,159	TURKISH DOMINIONS	419	123,876	133,944
HIDES—Dry	Total ewts.	189,201	COTTONS—Calicos, Cambrics, &c. ..	19,785,787	20,428,616	WALLACHIA & MOLD.	64	9,497	63
Wet	Total	182,191	Lace	299,514	262,419	OTHER EUROPEAN STATES	116	25,262	128
HIDES—Tanned	lbs.	327,928	Stockings	218,507	109,644	Egypt	295	100,132	223
HOPS	ewts.	7,079	Counterpanes, small Wares	285,360	184,064	UNITED STATES	892	853,495	899
LEATHER—Roots, Shoes, and Gloves, all of kinds	pairs	128,559	Thread	545,772	333,554	MEXICO, FOR. W. L. and CEN. AMERICA	461	164,058	485
OIL—Train	tuns.	444,581	COTTON YARN	5,715,904	6,146,621	BRAZIL	433	140,617	342
Palm	56,551	427,936	EARTHEN WARE	1,945,667	780,150	OTHER STATES IN AMER- ICA, AFRICA, ASIA	752	239,867	721
Cocos Nuts	1,023,344	129,675	FISH—Herrings	191,254	110,310	Total	29,947	6,971,162	29,132
Olive	10,423	14,685	Other Sorts	42,945	33,384	V.—COASTING TRADE.			
Seed oil, of all kinds	5,725	4,566	FURNITURE—Upholstery Wares	184,431	168,729	1857.			
OIL—SWEET	61,525	45,170	GLASS—Flint	135,581	117,030	1858.			
PROVISIONS—Bacon & Ham	ewts.	345,508	Common Bottles	30,974	25,688	ENTERED INWARDS.			
POTATOES	ewts.	1,271,392	Plates	215,582	195,805	TOTAL			
PROVISIONS—Bacon & Ham	ewts.	345,508	HABERDASHERY, Millinery	2,080,522	2,179,522	101,903	10,325,510	95,654	10,403,97
Beef, Salt	82,360	131,606	HARDWARE and CUTLERY	2,071,573	2,111,573	CLEARED OUTWARDS.			
Pork, Salt	66,281	68,028	LEATHER—Unwrought	210,500	211,596	TOTAL			
Butter	314,656	299,465	Wrought	1,152,224	898,882	104,163	10,693,404	101,173	10,413,93
Cheese	32,445	22,013	Saddlery and Harness	185,153	211,424	VI.—BULLION.			
Eggs	No.	95,631,600	LINEAR YARN	2,961,782	2,430,983	IMPORTED.			
Lard	ewts.	170,240	Thread	25,000	19,623	1857.			
QUICKSILVER	lbs.	217,211	Twine and small wares	1,109,894	1,084,844	1858.			
RICE, not in the Husk	ewts.	1,560,340	MACHINERY—Steam Engines	644,863	608,159	1857.			
SALT PETER	209,426	171,029	Other Sorts	1,780,890	1,553,334	1858.			
Cubic Nitro	"	313,705	METALS—Iron, Pig	1,138,314	792,369	1857.			
SEEDS—Clover	Total qrs.	333,940	Brass	4,533,937	3,646,839	1857.			
Flax and Linseed	1,023,344	875,903	Wire	141,118	137,543	1858.			
SILK—Raw	Total lbs.	85,176	Cast	523,340	571,703	1857.			
Waste	ewts.	1,371,256	Steel, Unwrought	551,217	362,626	1858.			
Thrown	Total lbs.	250,384	Copper, Pigs, &c.	510,876	389,512	1857.			
Broad Stuff—Silk or Satin	lbs.	141,738	Sheets and Nails	1,105,472	1,072,549	1858.			
—Gauze, Crapes, and Velvets	"	18,411	Wrought, or other Sorts	264,775	282,849	1857.			
Ribbons	282,181	240,602	Brass	89,043	96,317	1858.			
Plush for Hats	90,478	88,999	Laid, Pig, Rolled, &c.	417,034	250,730	1857.			
Bandanas, Goraha, Taffaties, &c. ..	pieces	270,264	Ore, Litharge	136,595	103,806	1858.			
SPICES—Cassia Lignea	lbs.	161,069	Linen	32,496	37,475	1857.			
Cinnamon	429,638	484,870	Mixed articles, of Silk only	394,238	357,867	1858.			
Cloves	307,671	1,494,281	Mixed with other materials	634,543	504,867	1857.			
Ginger	17,303	18,963	SILK, Thrown	272,916	121,192	1858.			
Nutmegs	"	190,951	Twist and Yarn	167,837	138,934	1857.			
Pepper	30,366	32,593	SODA	512,249	510,639	1858.			
Pimento	ewts.	4,455	SPIRITS	598,668	610,017	1857.			
SPIRITS—Bam	proof gallons.	4,415,456	STATIONERY	494,076	502,219	1858.			
Brandy	"	2,182,908	SALT	231,440	213,297	1857.			
Genova	"	121,867	SILK MANUFAC.—Stuffs, &c.	599,209	403,974	1858.			
SUGAR—Unrefined	total ewts.	5,162,294	Other articles, of Silk only	390,150	320,303	1857.			
Molasses	"	5,516,243	Mixed Stuffs, Flannels, &c.	634,543	507,755	1858.			
TALLOW	767,206	562,903	Stockings	272,916	121,192	1857.			
TAR	4,033	3,350	Entered at value	373,540	241,426	1858.			
TEA	lbs.	47,241,802	Stockings	88,370	52,934	1857.			
TIMBER—Deals, &c.	total loads.	767,809	Worsted Stuffs	2,046,943	2,028,537	1858.			
Staves, not exceed 72 in. long	total loads.	30,968	WOOL, Sheep and Lamb	2,016,271	1,759,052	1857.			
Wood not sawn	total loads.	554,355	WOOLLEN MANUFAC.—Stuffs, &c.	872,935	672,941	1858.			
TOBACCO—Stemmed	lbs.	1,978,510	WOOLLEN—Cloth of all Kinds	2,180,750	1,759,047	1857.			
Manufactured, and Snuff	"	1,035,481	Mixed Stuffs, Flannels, &c.	2,800,900	2,324,603	1858.			
12,907,924	13,34,4239	4,179,375	Entered at value	373,540	241,426	1857.			
1,040,741	1,179,375	4,750,947	Stockings	88,370	52,934	1858.			
12,717	133,139	4,754,105	Worsted Stuffs	2,016,271	1,759,052	1857.			
WOOL—Sheep and Lamb	total lbs.	80,982,827	WOOLLEN—Cloth of all Kinds	2,180,750	1,759,047	1858.			
Alpacas and the Llama Tribe	lbs.	1,648,628	Mixed Stuffs, Flannels, &c.	2,800,900	2,324,603	1857.			
WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES—	Not made up	986,100	Entered at value	373,540	241,426	1858.			
Partially made up, Shawls, &c. lbs.	12,503								

GENERAL TRADE REPORT.

London, Friday Evening.

The accounts from all parts of the country are again extremely satisfactory. As far as regards the linen and woollen manufactures, there has been a partial degree of reaction, owing to purchasers having had their operations arrested by the extreme firmness of prices; but the suspension of dealings, besides being partial, is only temporary. The fact is, there is a growing demand for linen and woollen goods, which will be supplied, for the necessities of consumers require them. We, therefore, anticipate that we shall see in these branches a similar result to that which has already occurred in the cotton trade, and which must always occur at seasons when a scarcity of the raw material is accompanied by a general fall in stocks. That is, after each period of comparative dullness, caused by the unwillingness of purchasers to accede to the manufacturers' terms, a new starting point has arisen based upon those higher terms, and an active business recommenced. So far as we can see this is extremely likely to be the case in these instances, for commerce, like history, more frequently repeats itself than is commonly suspected. In the cotton trade, indeed, something of the same process is again indicated in the subjoined reports. The raw material has partially advanced again this week at Liverpool, and the effect is seen in the firmness of the Manchester spinners' prices for their yarns, and in the difficulty which the Manchester manufacturers feel in obtaining corresponding terms for their goods. Yet no one can be found to doubt that if cotton keeps up, as is more than probable, those prices must be given. How can it be otherwise, when the whole of Europe is requiring yarn, and the whole of India, Australia, and China are wanting goods, to say nothing of the ordinary requirements of the home market? We therefore see nothing in the mild complaints from Bradford, Rochdale, and Leeds, but the natural operation of an ordinary commercial law, which involves no real hardship, and to which all parties must alike submit. From the iron and hardware districts the accounts continue progressively favourable; and it may sound strange after what we have heard thence for many months past, but the fact is, they are extending their works by building new factories in the anticipation of a more extensive trade. The silk trade is also improving. Indeed, all the great industries of the country are well engaged, and they are almost certain to be so for the remainder of the year.

The state of the money-market encourages this expectation. If trade required it, any conceivable amount of capital would at once be forthcoming, at very moderate rates, for its development; but, from the causes at which we hinted last week, the assistance is not needed. Trade is too sound and too profitable to need resort to artificial capital, and it will so continue as long as the production remains, as it now is, below the necessities of the public. Money, therefore, is rapidly accumulating, and in proportion as it is accumulating is the difficulty of finding employment for it. The supplies will be further increased in October by the dispersion of at least £6,000,000. in dividends. Capital, therefore, is likely to be cheaper than it now is; and it is extremely probable that the Bank of England will follow the example of the Bank of France and reduce its rate of discount, in order to get out some portion of its enormous reserve. But, in the present condition of trade, we do not think this expedient will tempt people to commence a system of discounts which would compel them to force a trade for the sole profit of the money-dealers and jobbers.

In Manchester the general advance in prices, which we have noticed as it occurred, has been firmly maintained; but in the current week there has been somewhat less activity, owing to the terms required by spinners and manufacturers. The check to business, however, is only apparent, though had no advance been required the transactions would certainly have been unprecedented in extent. Very extensive orders, particularly for yarn, are now in the hands of the agency houses, and they must shortly be placed. Indeed, some spinners have made large sales at £d. per lb. over the highest prices of last week, especially for India and Germany. The home trade have also found themselves compelled to buy heavily, and to pay £d. per lb. more than last week for fine counts. For cloth manufacturers have been unwilling to make any concession, being full of orders; but for some descriptions they have taken £d. per piece less. The manufacturers of shirtings and printing cloths have abstained from further purchases of twist and west, because their goods lag in the market at inadequate quotations. But, as just intimated, all classes of spinners are at ease about further sales, especially as the raw material is tending upwards. Domestic, long cloths, T cloths, and printers, suited to the home trade, have been less subject to fluctuation in price than India and some other light fabrics, the demand being of a more moderate and steady character. In these goods the business doing is to a fair amount and prices firm, with a tendency to increase, but only to a moderate extent. Messrs. John Slagg and Co. report:—"Owing

to the advanced prices asked for India goods, there has been little or nothing done in them during the week, but as manufacturers generally are free of stock, and in many cases under contract, there is no disposition, especially in the face of an advancing cotton-market, to give way, and we have consequently to report a quiet but very firm market for these goods. In other descriptions there is no change to notice. There is perhaps not quite so active a demand for T cloths and long-cloths as we have had for the last few weeks, but the production is well engaged, and prices are firm with an upward tendency."

Messrs. George Fraser, Son, and Co. report:—"There is not much change in prices since last Tuesday, but yarns are on the whole dearer. For goods the demand is evidently less active, being checked by the recent large advance in prices. Buyers are evidently disposed to hold aloof, and sellers are in some cases more wishful to book orders."

In Leeds there has been considerable activity, though the attendance of merchants in the halls has not been very important. Current quotations have been maintained in all descriptions of cloth. Fancy articles are still in demand, and those among them which show any peculiar excellence in pattern or material, have obtained rather higher rates. A good winter trade is now a matter of certainty. The meeting of the British Association here this week proves rather an impediment to business, as some of our manufacturers, being full of visitors, have kept away from the halls.

At Bradford there has been more quietness in the wool market than for some time past, the high prices having caused a pause. Quotations, however, are very firm, especially for bright-haired sorts. Spinners and manufacturers are unable to realise adequate profits unless they can obtain a commensurate advance for their goods, which merchants this week have scarcely been disposed to pay. This is the sole cause of the quietness of the market; spinners and manufacturers remaining very firm in their requirements.

At Huddersfield, however, there has been a numerous attendance of buyers, and the same activity continues which has prevailed during the last five or six weeks. Numerous orders for winter goods are in hand, and all the factories are full. Wool of all sorts, therefore, continues in demand, and the advanced prices are more readily obtained.

The worsted trade of Halifax shows no material change, though the woolstaplers have been doing less owing to the prices required. But, as at Bradford, the bright-haired and finer qualities are in demand, and quotations have an upward tendency. The manufacturers are well employed. Most descriptions of goods are in steady demand, winter and autumn qualities being chiefly in request. Stocks are certainly not accumulating. Yarns are stiff in price, as may be expected from the prices of the raw material, and the spinners have as much as they can do to execute contracts made a week or two ago. New contracts they will not take except at an advance.

At Rochdale there are great complaints of the advanced prices required for wool; but staplers continue very firm, saying their stocks are light, and that higher terms may yet be looked for. Brokers of good quality command high prices. The flannel trade of the district continues as active as at any period within the last two months. For the finer classes of fancy flannels, for light goods generally, and for unions, the inquiry is exceedingly active, and large quantities have changed hands in the course of the week. The price only stands in the way of even a greater business; and some manufacturers declare they will sooner run their mills short time than make goods at present terms, if the raw material continues to go up. The general tone, however, is a little more cheerful than this; and there would be perfect contentment if wool would but go down a little. But of that there is no present prospect.

The ribbon weavers of Coventry have not yet terminated their differences with their employers, consequently this particular production in that town is not improving; but the demand is being supplied from other places, and merchants find no difficulty in placing their orders. In Spitalfields there is an increasing make of valents for winter. From Macclesfield, Middleton, Congleton, and the other seats of the silk trade, the accounts are generally satisfactory.

The lace and hosiery trades of Nottingham and Leicester are becoming more promising. There is every probability of an advance in the prices, and of the demand being conceded, as stocks are, on the whole, very light, and yarns are advancing. As far as lace is concerned, the inquiry appears to run principally upon plain nets.

The Irish linen trade is good. In hand-loom manufacturers there has been a fair demand at Belfast, for drills and stocks are light. Diapers are sought for, and prices very firm. Printing lawns and cambric handkerchiefs are also in very good demand, at firm rates. Manufacturers have refused orders for light linens for bleaching, at old rates; an advance consequently has been obtained, and stocks are very low. Goods for dyeing, and bollands, as well as heavy linens, are in request, but without change in prices. Power-loom drills are wanted; and, in heavy linens, manufacturers have been obliged to decline orders of large extent, owing to

their terms not being acceded to. Buyers of light linens for bleaching are firm at higher rates than they could be bought at last week; but buyers are holding back, consequently there is not much business. Printing lawns and handkerchiefs in moderate request. Boughs have realized an advance of £d. per yard. Stocks are very low. The advance required for white linens has checked operations in this class of goods. The home trade is very good, and large orders have this week been received from the United States. The demand for line yarns has been active, and with small stocks a further advance of 1½d. per bundle is asked by spinners. Tow yarns firmly maintain the late advance, but the demand has not been animated during the week; in most cases, however, spinners are working up orders previously entered upon.

The flax market of Dundee has been very firm throughout the week, and a fair amount of business has been done at very free prices. The accounts from the various foreign markets continue to be of such a nature as to afford no hope of any relaxation in the value of the article. We have had several arrivals since our last, and the imports have always obtained higher prices than prevailed last year. Tows and jute are in demand at firm prices. A very large amount of business has been done in yarns at imposing prices. More has been done in linens; and though prices are scarcely to be said to have advanced, holders are decidedly more firm in their demands.

There is no change of importance in the Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Sheffield trades; but the home demand for goods continues to improve, while most of the leading houses are better supplied with foreign orders. As yet, however, employment is not quite full; but some branches are very active, and are working overtime. The demand runs mainly upon useful articles. In Birmingham extensive new manufactories are rising up in all parts of the town and neighbourhood, and many are now in course of erection. It is partially the same at Wolverhampton and Sheffield. This fact is pretty conclusive evidence that renewed prosperity is anticipated, and, so far, appearances favour that expectation.

The iron and lead works of North and South Wales are well occupied. Some of the lead works in Flintshire are flourishing.

In Glasgow a large business has been done in iron during the week at steady prices. The same may be reported of its cotton manufactures.

The Staffordshire potters are fully employed. The demand for earthenware from the Australian colonies continues.

THE METAL TRADE.

COPPER.

The associated smelters to-day reduced the price another £d. per lb., making the price of tough cake 9s. per ton, and of best select 10s. Within the last few months the price has been reduced to this quotation from 12s.6d., and a buoyant market. The home-trade has fallen off; the Board of Trade returns show a decreased export; there is a large stock in France; and the consequence will now be the stoppage of many mines, and a great reduction in the production of ores. The Société Maritime, which had made a contract for 2000 tons of bar copper in Chile, at a very high rate, has rejected large portions of the deliveries for non-compliance with the contract, but in reality to escape the heavy loss.

Messrs. TRUEMAN AND FRY state there is an absence of activity in every branch of the metal market, but operations have become much more numerous, and there is an improved feeling generally.

IRON.—Both Welsh and Staffordshire descriptions have been more purchased, and Welsh has become dearer. Scotch pig iron has improved to 5s. 6d. cash, being an advance of 1s. 6d. per ton since our last, with still upward tendency.

IRON.—There has been a sufficient demand for foreign to keep prices steady; English, however, is rather dull of late.

SPELTER.—But little done, and market quiet.

LEAD.—A fair business doing, and prices are firmer.

TIN PLATES.—At low rates there have been some considerable sales.

ENGLISH AND DUTCH TELEGRAPH.—The W. Cory screw steam-ship, accompanied by the Reliance steam-tug, have left Greenwich, having on board the submarine cable to be laid down between Dunwich, in Suffolk, and Zandvoort, in Holland. This cable is 140 miles in length, weighs nearly 1400 tons, and is therefore ten times as heavy per mile as the Atlantic, and contains four conducting wires.

THE WESTERN BANK.—The *Greenock Telegraph* learns that two accountants who have been engaged for the last six weeks investigating the bank books at the instance of the committee of shareholders, have presented a report to the effect that the concern had been bankrupt six or seven years since.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

THE following are the more notable fluctuations in the railway traffic return table of this week, as compared with that of the corresponding week of last year. The London and North-Western shows a decrease of 69637; the North-Eastern of 15112; the Lancashire and Yorkshire of 3397; the East Lancashire of 3211. The Eastern Counties, on the other hand, shows an increase of 5481; traffic; the Midland of 8962; the South-Eastern of 12581; the Great Western of 13637; the London and South-Western of 15191; the Great Northern of 21442. It is satisfactory to observe an upward tendency in the "take" of so many of the trunk lines. This is probably due, to some extent, to the horror of our countrymen at the foreign passport regulations—as well as to the improving tone of the internal trade of the country.

The following alterations have been experienced in the prices of some of the leading stocks during the week:—

	Highest.	Lowest.
London and North-Western	911	90
Midland	97	96½
Great Western	51	50½
Lancashire and Yorkshire	95½	94½
Great Northern	102½	101½
South-Western	95	94
South-Eastern	72½	71½
Eastern Counties	61½	60½
Caledonian	85	85

Prices leave off firm, with a decidedly upward tendency, but their elasticity is undoubtedly checked by the absence from all business circles of an immense number of capitalists at this time of the year, and the utter apathy and determined "know-nothingism" which pervades the large majority of the "burnt children" in the investing world. With regard to the first assigned cause, we must remark that the business of the month of September and of the actual period of the month was never known to be otherwise affected; and, as to the second, it is a song so often sung of late as to be familiar *ad nauseam*. It was possible that the plethoric state of the Bank vaults, which immure some 19,000,000*l.* (increasable within a day or two to 20,000,000*l.*) of bullion, would have induced the directors to lower their minimum rate of discount from 8 per cent. to a rate something in conformity with that which rules outside. They, however, have elected to keep without the pale of the discount market, and British railway investments have not even reaped the infinitesimal rise in prices, which alone could have been expected to follow reduced discounts under present circumstances. The lowering of the French rate of discount had already told by anticipation upon French securities which, since the reduction has become a matter of public notoriety, have relapsed a shade; but, like our domestic ones, are quoted as "firm," and "looking up." Nothing material has transpired with reference to the deliberations of the Railway Congress, from which such scanty results are anticipated that the movement attracts slight attention. The market for guaranteed securities is flat, and even Mr. Layard, upon whose predictions and predictions since his Indian tour small reliance is placed, has failed to attract public fancy in any marked degree to his Ottoman Bank, or his prescriptions for our "sick friend."

If the public take even the trouble to inquire why guaranteed securities show so little buoyancy, despite the notorious accumulation of capital in the country, and the admitted recent improvement in the home trade, they must continue to receive the old answer, viz. that the low standard of commercial morality, adopted by concessionaires of the first, second, and third degrees, who have stood as intermediaries between foreign Governments and the English public, the innocence and indolence of some directors, and the complicity of others in over-profitable contracting jobs, have impaired the confidence of the classes who have money to lose, not so much in foreign Governments as in their fellow citizens. The time is not yet come for the Indian guarantees to assume their legitimate position in our share-lists, paying, as they are calculated to do by the soundest financiers, an average of 4½ per cent. for money all round. But let the public be once well convinced that Indian affairs are likely to remain under the industrious and conscientious, not to say masterly, hands of Lord Stanley, instead of drifting into those of despotic or *fainéant* administrators, of whom there is mortal apprehension;—let confidence prevail that the ashes of the revolt are to be stamped out by the heel of British armies, not fanned by twaddle, and we may expect to see the immense amount of Indian stocks now cumbering the strong-boxes of speculative holders and temporary investors become an article of every-day demand, an acknowledgement asset, and, in fact, a recognised security. Barring the access of fever or mania, which every man may safely prophesy at his pleasure, but of which there are at present no premonitory symptoms, events will be apt to follow, we think, the course we have indicated.

The directors of the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway Company state that they are pre-

pared to receive loans on debentures in sums of not less than 100*l.* We should like to see the form of the debenture bond and the precise clauses of the act or acts under which it is authorized. This company will require a little ready money to pay for the human and mechanical breakages at Round Oak, apropos of which, we can hardly avoid the suggestion that the payment of celebrated traffic managers and economists by percentage on savings has proved, in more cases than one, to be bad policy. It has been found on the Eastern Counties, and other lines we could mention, to induce roguery in compilation of returns, and permit recklessness in the use of inferior stores, and the overworking of *employés*. We have at this moment in our mind's eye the case of an honest man, dismissed from the employ of a leading company after a refusal to sign fallacious returns of stores in hand by which a superior officer expected to swell his claim for saving, and, consequently, his claim for commission.

The Pernambuco Railway Shareholders will have, among other business at their meeting on the 8th proximo, to appoint two new directors in pursuance of their covenant, entered into by the board with the committee of consultation. We understand that the desperate condition to which the quarrels and wants of projectors, contractors, and directors have reduced this enterprise has enlisted, somewhat too late, the active attention of several proprietors. Major-General Tremenheere, Mr. Adolphus W. Young, Major Vereker, Mr. J. J. Macdonald, and Mr. Thomas Moxon have been spoken of as candidates. The most discordant element in the concern has been certainly got rid of in the person of the enthusiastic Mr. De Mornay, but at the same time, and in his person also, one of the best informed, most zealous, and most honest of its connexions. If proprietors and directors will insist upon really assuming the management of this company, instead of leaving it in the hands of professional directors, and referring the *lîches* of the latter for investigation to Stock Exchange speculators, they will, no doubt, in time learn a few facts of importance, and improve the prospects of the undertaking. If, however, the new candidates are but nominees of the board or the committee of investigation, so much the worse for passive shareholders.

There is still some talk of a Chilian State loan of 1,400,000*l.* or 1,500,000*l.* for railway purposes. Like the Brazilians, the Chilians have seen enough of the operation of guarantees, and their proposal to borrow the money at a fair rate of interest upon the national credit, and to expend it themselves for the national benefit, if possible, without being sieved through the pockets of half a dozen British or other speculators, looks far sounder than the promotion of guaranteed schemes, which are hardly intelligible to such as have money to invest, though digestible enough by hungry gulls.

The Namur and Liege proprietors are summoned to meet on the 5th of October in London, and on the 12th in Brussels, to ratify a "provisional convention which has been come to between the Directors of the Namur and Liege Company and the Directors of the Great Northern of France for the construction and working by the latter company of a line from Namur to the French frontier by Dinant, such construction being obligatory under the original *cahier des charges*, Art. 63.

It is announced by a contemporary that the various French railway companies intend to improve the accommodation of their first-class carriages. Surely this was hardly required; but we can understand the advantageous luxury of the special carriages they propose, according to the same authority, to construct, composed of saloon, bedroom, and ante-room, which may be engaged at a special tariff for family use. The Strasburg Company have made the first move in the matter abroad. In this country the Eastern Counties Company, and we dare say others, have for some time past adopted the practice of letting family carriages.

CAPTAIN HUISH'S SUCCESSOR.—Mr. Cawkwell, traffic manager of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, has accepted the post of general manager on the London and North Western, resigned by Captain Huish. About six months ago, Mr. Cawkwell was offered a similar position on the Midland line, but was induced to remain where he was by the liberality of his own board. It is said the Lancashire and Yorkshire directors have offered him 1600*l.* a year rather than lose his services. Rumour fixes the salary on the London and North Western at 2000*l.* a year, with a per-cent on the increase of traffic.

NEW ITALIAN RAILWAY.—Negotiations are pending between M. Mirès and the Austrian Government for the connexion of the Lombardo-Venetian and Pio-Central railways, by means of a line from Ferrara to Rovigo and Padua. This would greatly increase the Lombardo-Venetian traffic on the line from Padua to Milan on one side, and thence to the Piedmontese and French railways, and to Cassarsa on the other side, which will soon be brought into direct communication with Vienna and the whole of Germany. This connecting link would also greatly improve the agricultural and mercantile prospects of Ferrara and Bologna—districts richly productive of maize and hemp, which are largely consumed at Trieste and Pola, the maritime emporiums of Austria. The fertile province of Polesine, through which the line

would pass, would also gain more facile access for its products to the Adriatic. The execution of the line would, of course, be of the easiest kind in so level a country, intersected by no large rivers except the Po.

SPALDING AND HOLBEACH RAILWAY.—The arrangements for opening this line for passenger traffic will soon be completed. The railway is already opened for the carriage of goods.

WESTERN RAILWAY OF FRANCE.—The Minister of Public Works has given his approbation to the plans of the Western Railway Company for the portion of the line from Rennes to Redon, situated between Macaire and Besle. The line is to follow the valley of the Vilaine, and is 6½ miles shorter than the direction originally proposed by the height of Branfleur.

RAILWAY RIVALRY.—*The Dublin Mercantile Advertiser* remarks, *apropos* to the ruinous contest between the Midland and Great Southern and Western Railways:—"We are happy to observe from the report of the proceedings on Thursday at the half-yearly meeting of the Midland Great Western Railway, that there is a fair prospect of an early arrangement of the dispute between the rival lines. The great majority of the shareholders of both have resolved upon putting an end to the contention at all hazards; and the prudence of such a resolution could not be too highly commended. The sad effects of railway competition in England afford a startling example which ought not to be lost upon the Irish public interested in railway property."

THE RHYL AND DENBIGH RAILWAY.—This line of railway, known by the name of the Vale of Clwyd Railway, is about to be examined by the Government inspector, and in a few days hence it will be opened from the flourishing bathing-place of Rhyl, on the Chester and Holyhead Railway, to the old town of Denbigh. It is in contemplation to extend the line from Denbigh to Ruthin, still more southward, and thence to the picturesque district of Llangollen, and the Chester and Shrewsbury section of the Great Western Railway, at Llangollen-road station.

PROPOSED RAILWAY LINE.—A project is announced for the continuation to Bury St. Edmunds of a proposed line between Ilford and Dunmow, to place Bury St. Edmunds in more direct communication with the metropolis than either the two existing lines of railway to that town afford. A further extension is suggested from Bury St. Edmunds to Norwich, in order to give the latter place also three lines of railway to the metropolis. It is not stated whether the promoters intend to share in the splendid dividends of the Eastern Counties Railway, or merely to secure costs.

THE NORTHERN BENGAL RAILWAY COMPANY (Limited) have received an offer to construct the earthworks of their line from Maldal to the foot of the hills at Darjeeling, for 2000*l.* per mile. This does not, however, include European superintendence. The embankment will be carried above inundation level. The bridges, it is expected, will be constructed with equal economy. The main connecting line of the East Indian Railway from Calcutta will, it is expected, be extended to Rajmahal by the end of next year. As there is abundance of labour on the spot at cheap rates, one year's work will make a large part of this important route available from Calcutta to Darjeeling.

GALWAY AND AMERICA.—*The Galway Vindicator* announces the arrival there of several directors of the Midland Great Western Railway, with a view of laying down a line of railway from their terminus to the dock. They were accompanied by Mr. Boylan, engineer to the company, who commenced laying out the line, and we have reason to know that it will be proceeded with as soon as possible. When completed it will form a chain of the breakwater, of the construction of which, by the aid of a Government grant, the company are sure.

JOSEPH TRAVERS AND SONS' WEEKLY CIRCULAR.

19, St. Swithin's-lane.

TEA.—At public sale Assam realised 2d. to 3d. per lb. advance. For China tea, previous rates were obtained. Privately, business has been limited, but the market remains firm.

COFFEE.—There has been much competition at public sale, and although the quantity offered has been large, the whole sold at extreme rates. In plantation Ceylon fully 1*l.* advance has been obtained for Colory sorts, whilst the lower descriptions are still dearer. Exporters have been large purchasers of native Ceylon, and would be ready buyers at 48*s.* 6*d.* to 49*s.*—but sellers hold firm for 50*s.* Other sorts are without any material change.

SUGAR.—RAW: We have no alteration in prices to notice, but there has been more animation towards the close of the market. The first parcel of white Benares in the market this season we quote at 51*s.* to 53*s.*—the quality is fine. The refined market has been quiet, and prices are unaltered, with the exception of brown lumps which are quoted 6*d.* lower. Pieces continue scarce, and are at extreme rates. Basters and molasses are dull of sale although relatively cheap.

FRUIT.—**CURRENTS:** A large business has been done

without material alteration in price. Letters from Patras state that really fine fruit was very difficult to obtain, and prices in Zante had risen. There will, doubtless, be a greater assortment in the market shortly, as sailing vessels arrive; but fine currants will not, it is supposed, be plentiful. News being hourly expected from Denia of a drop in price from 4 to 3 dollars, several cargoes have been sold at 36s. to 38s., and our quotations are in consequence again lower. Meanwhile the demand is extremely slack, and prices uncertain. The crop is estimated at 15,000 tons against an average of 9000 tons during the past twelve years.

Srica.—Jamaica ginger has again sold readily, at a still further advance, and as the greater portion of this year's crop has arrived, we do not expect to see lower prices: Cochin is also dearer. Cassia is in demand for export, at an advance. A large business has been done in black pepper, at full prices. Petre very firm.

Rice.—In cleaned there is nothing to report. A large business has been done for some time past in low Rangoons and East India rice for feeding purposes.

HOME, COLONIAL, AND FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Mincing Lane, Friday Evening.
In a general view trade, in the various departments under this head, exhibits very little change. Notwithstanding the increasing cheapness of money, the speculator still finds only partial employment, and in most cases one transaction suffices to carry produce direct from the hands of the importer into the regular channels of consumption or export. In the absence of numerous sales and resales, that are thus dispensed with, the markets lack the animation of more speculative times, but a good wholesome business is steadily effected, and hence the satisfactory features which characterise nearly every statistical document. The Board of Trade Returns just issued indicate most favourably of the general consumption of nearly all the primary articles.

Cotton.—The supplies of English wheat at Mark-lane continue very moderate, but they are more than adequate to the present demand, and to effect anything like a clearance 1s. to 2s. per quarter reduction has been accepted, inferior qualities being difficult to place at the decline. Really prime samples of old wheat have been comparatively scarce, and can hardly be quoted lower. Good dry qualities of white brought 49s. to 50s.; prime red, 46s. to 47s.; good, 44s. to 45s.; common runs, 40s. to 41s. per quarter. The imports of foreign wheat are still anything but heavy, and prime qualities are held somewhat firmly. The business passing is, however, very limited; Dantzig is offered at 53s. to 56s.; Rostock, 50s. to 51s.; French, 44s. to 46s.; St. Petersburg, 41s. to 43s.; Low Russian, 37s. to 38s. per qr. No improvement has taken place in the flour trade, and purchases are not extended beyond the bare sufficiency for immediate wants; but as sales are not pressed, prices are not quotably lower, although the inclination of the market, especially for inferior, is in the buyer's favour. The top price of Town made remains at 48s.; Town households 36s.; No. Twos, 31s. to 32s.; Country households, 33s. to 35s.; Seconds, 31s. to 31s. 6d.; Norfolk, 29s. to 31s.; Foreign flour is not in large supply. The few French samples on offer are worth 37s. to 38s., for best marks. American imports are firmly held, and the best brands command full prices. Barley is now coming to market more freely, but the bulk of the fresh arrivals are of the medium grades and these, meeting a slow demand, are, to some extent, forced off at irregular prices, ranging as low as 34s. Choice malting qualities are comparatively scarce, and steady in value, at 42s. to 45s. The few samples of Scotch that have as yet arrived are good as to weight, but indifferent in colour. Malt is firm, and the choicest makes to some extent withheld, in anticipation of better prices. New beans have declined another 1s., in consequence of increased supplies. Good old samples are not materially altered in value. English peas continue scarce and dear, but several arrivals of foreign have reduced the price of these 1s. per qr. Foreign oats have been in very large supply, and prices 6d. to 1s. lower in consequence.

SEEDS.—There have been no arrivals of linseed this week, but numerous arrivals are off the coast from the Black Sea and Sea of Azof, which have depressed prices 1s. per qr. on the spot. Bombay offers at 59s. 6d., and Calcutta 57s. to 58s.; but Black Sea is held at 58s. free delivered, at which but few sales are practicable. Rape seed is in moderate demand; fine Calcutta at 57s. to 58s., Bombay 61s. to 64s. 6d., inferior 48s. to 60s.

Hops.—At the Worcester fair, held this week, the supplies of new hops were moderate, and about 800 packets sold at 45s. to 60s. per cwt. In the Borough Market the demand has generally increased, and prices are firmer, especially for fine qualities. Mid and East Kent are quoted 65s. to 100s.; Weald, 50s. to 56s. and 70s.; Sussex, 45s. to 48s. and 56s. per cwt. Duty 270,000.

POTATOES.—Notwithstanding the complaints of

disease in various quarters, samples come to market in fine condition, and meet a steady sale. Regent's, 65s. to 90s.; Shaw's, 55s. to 70s.; middlings, 40s. to 50s. per ton.

STOCK.—The demand for fat stock has been generally active, and the supplies at market, although of good average extent, having been less than of late, better prices have been realised for prime breeds. Upon coarse and inferior descriptions very little improvement can be quoted. The inquiry has been especially brisk for beef, and prime Scots have made advanced prices. Best Down wethers have also brought enhanced terms. Of veal the supply has been short, and quotations are much higher. Pork has come to market in larger quantity, but the price has not undergone much alteration.

MONDAY.

Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
5,002	24,460	180	900
3s. 4d. to 5s. 4d. 2d. to 5s. 2d.	4s. to 5s.	3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.	

THURSDAY.

1,020	9,000	300	500
3s. to 4s. 10d. 4s. to 5s. 2d.	4s. to 5s.	3s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.	

SUGAR, COFFEE, TEA, RICES, SPICES, &c.—For reviews of these markets we refer to Mearns' Travers' circular, which will be found in another column.

SALT-PETRE.—The stock here is in few hands, and firmly held. The trade buy merely for immediate orders, but have to pay full prices. About 3000 bags have changed hands during the week, at 41s. 6d. cash, for 12s. 4d. full prompt, for 2s. 4d. refraction.

SPRITS.—A large business is passing in rum, at about late rates. Leewards sold at 1s. 8d.; Demerara at 2s. to 2s. 2d. per gallon, proof. The clearances are continuously active, but the stock still increasing.

INDIGO.—The trade is chiefly engaged in inspecting the samples for the forthcoming sales, and but little else is doing. The quantity at present declared is 15,000 chests, comprising a large proportion of good shipping qualities.

COCHINKEAL.—1100 bgs. arrived by the West India steamer, since which the market has been quiet, but holders have shown no disposition to press sales, and prices remain about the same. 138 bgs., at auction, were nearly all bought in; Honduras silvers at 3s. 8d. to 3s. 11d.; blacks, 3s. 6d. to 5s.; Mexican, 3s. 10s. to 4s. 2d. for blacks, and 3s. 10d. for silvers. To-day fine silvers declined 1d. per lb.

OTHER DYES.—Turmeric finds a steady sale at full prices. Malabar sold at 15s. to 18s. 6d.; and fine Bengal bought in at 25s. to 26s. per cwt. Red wood brings 4s. 12s. 6d. for good clean qualities; Persian blue galls sold at 100s. In safflower, nothing of moment has transpired.

GAMBIER.—At public sale, was bought in at 15s. 6d. to 16s. per cwt. being the prior quotation.

SHELLAC.—Has again advanced several shillings per cwt. Good and fine blood having realised 99s. to 100s.; S. L. orange, fair second quality, 78s.; garnet, 75s.; dark button, 71s. to 76s.; small dark native liver, 65s. 6d. to 64s. per cwt.

COTTON.—American advices, confirming the accounts of damage sustained by the crops, and reporting higher prices in the principal markets, have rendered holders on this side exceedingly firm, and many samples have been withdrawn from on offer both in Liverpool and London, whilst those remaining on show are very generally held for enhanced terms. Transactions are in consequence, to some extent, restricted, but a further advance in value has been established. The sales in Liverpool for the week are 58,000 bales, and in London 3,000 bales, prices in the latter case 1d. to 4d. higher.

HEMP.—Some small parcels of Russian hemp in public sales have sold rather cheaply, but the private contract market is firm, and St. Petersburg clear hemp is not quoted under 30s. to 30s. 10s. Of Manilla hemp but little is offering at late rates, and sales are limited. Jute finds a ready sale as offered, 4500 bales having sold at 10s. advance; low medium to good, 17s. 7s. 6d. to 21s. per ton. Coir goods are in moderate request, at late rates.

METALS.—Manufactured iron continues in steady demand, and some improvement has taken place in the market, for Scotch pig quotations having reached 55s. to 55s. 6d., shipments are again satisfactory, and amounted last week to 11,426 tons against 9960 tons in the corresponding week last year. Spelter is offering on rather lower terms, say 23s. 12s. 6d. to 23s. 15s. per ton. Lead is unaltered in value. Banca tin is quoted 116s., and Strait's 115s. per ton. Copper was to-day reduced to 11d. for sheet, and 98s. for file and cake.

DRUGS.—Although no great activity prevails in any department, there is rather more doing in most, and indications favour a steady expansion of business. Ipecacuanha, recently bought in at 3s. 6d., has been placed at that price. Star aniseed oil sells steadily at 8s. 3d. Sales of the new Spanish saffron have been made at 27s. Camphor remains quoted 65s.; jalap sold publicly at 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10d.

GUMS.—Barbary kinds of East India Arabic have sold at 38s. to 38s. 6d.; small unscrapped Benguela copal, at 66s. to 67s. 6d.; good red Angola held at 90s. per cwt.

OILS.—Linseed has declined to 32s. 9d. on the spot

and for delivery. In Hull the price is 31s. 9d.; Rape oil is also purchasable on easier terms, say brown at 43s. to 43s. 6d.; refined, 47s. 6d. to 48s.; English, 1s. to 2s. less. Oils are dull at late rates. Cocoa-nut sells slowly at 37s. 6d. for Ceylon; 38s. 6d. to 41s. Cochin. Palm had slow sale at 39s. 6d. to 40s. Fish oils are purchased only for immediate requirement; sperm, 85s.; southern, 86s.; seal, 38s.; cod, 34s.

TURPENTINE.—No arrivals. Sales, 600 barrels crude, at 10s. 6d.; American drawn spirits are worth 39s. to 39s. 6d.

TALLOW.—Arrivals were light in the early part of the week, and with a steady trade demand prices slightly advanced, touching 49s. 9d. on the spot, and 49s. 6d. last three months delivery. Subsequently the market became flat, and with increased arrivals prices gave way 6d. per cwt. The closing rates to-day were 49s. 6d. on the spot, and 49s. October to December. By advices from St. Petersburg to September 10, the shipments to that date are given at 50,556 casks, against 46,837 casks last year. Of the former, 15,396 remained on lighters, 22,024 were despatched to London, 1484 to Liverpool, 7550 to other ports of the United Kingdom, and 4102 to the Continent. A telegram, dated 17th, estimates the shipments at 55,000 casks, and 39,000 casks on the wharf. Official market letter:—Town tallow, 52s. 9d.; rough fat, 2s. 9d. melted stuff, 35s. 6d.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, September 21.

BANKRUPTS.

EDWIN LOGSDON.—Hitchin, Hertfordshire, carriage builder.

HENRY MILNER COCKBURN.—Tottenham-court-road, tobacconist.

MARY GOWLAND and GEORGE GOWLAND.—Liverpool, chronometer and musical instrument makers.

ROLAND PARKINSON.—Blackburn, Lancashire, inn-keeper.

JOHN HARGREAVES.—Bradford and Sutton, Yorkshire, coal and lime merchant.

FRANCIS EVANS BAILEY.—Birmingham, eating-house keeper.

HENRY NOTT HOBDAY.—Birmingham, tin plate worker.

EDWARD THOMAS GOVER.—Bull's Head-court, Newgate-street, stationer.

JAMES FORD.—Wolverhampton, butcher.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

R. M'GAW.—Kilstar, Kirkcudlann, farmer.

T. WARD.—Borrowstounness.

E. LEIGH GOURROCK.—Renfrewshire.

G. W. PHILLIPS.—Rothesay, bookseller and stationer.

W. FOWLER.—Edinburgh, tailor and clothier.

J. WILSON.—Crief, cattle dealer.

Friday, September 24.

BANKRUPTS.

WILLIAM STUBBINS WELLS.—Hertford, butcher.

WILLIAM HENRY WALLER.—John-street, Adelphi, scribener.

JOSEPH REDMAN.—Bradford, stuff manufacturer.

WILLIAM BARRETT.—Halifax, plumber.

STEPHEN CONSTANTINE GALATTI.—Liverpool, insurance broker.

SCOTCH BANKRUPTS.

JAMES M'LEAN.—Bishopbriggs, near Glasgow, contractor.

JAMES DOUGLAS.—Kirkcudlbright, saddler.

JAMES MACKIE.—Newton, Meems, grocer.

WORCESTER FAIR.—SEPT. 21.—The great annual hop, cheese, and cattle fair was well supplied with stock of every description, but of cheese and hops there was rather a falling off. This is called the hop fair of the year, but in consequence of the crop being rather late in ripening this year the bulk of hops brought to market was much smaller than it would have been had the fair taken place a fortnight later. About 900 pockets were brought to Worcester, and, the attendance of dealers from a distance being good, the greater portion of them were disposed of, though at low prices, best samples not realising more than 60s. per cwt. There are a good many hops of the growth of 1857 still on hand, which keeps down the price. Of cheese best qualities fetched 65s. to 70s., seconds 60s. Cattle were in fair demand. There was a large supply of sheep, and especially of rams of good breed. The result was that the ram-market was over-stocked, and good animals of undoubted blood sold for far less than their value. The horses were mostly limited to the agricultural kind, and good strong animals fetched remunerating prices.

BRAZILIAN FINANCE.—According to recent advices, on the 30th of June last the balances in the Imperial treasuries amounted to 2,500,000L sterling (1,000,000L being in the Rio exchequer alone). Notwithstanding the large outlay occasioned by the rupture with Paraguay, the expenditure in internal improvements, reductions in custom duties, the diminished export of coffee, and other drawbacks, the revenue for the financial year ending the 30th of June, 1858, would show a surplus of 1,000,000L sterling.

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.

* Ex. Dividend, or ex. New.

* Ex. Dividend, or ex. New.

JOINT STOCK BANKS

JOINT STOCK BANKS.							JOINT STOCK BANKS.						
No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.	Names.	Shares.	Paid.	Price per Share.		No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.	Names	Shares.	Paid.	Price per Share.	
22500	20 ^f . per cent.	Australasia	2	£ s. d.			20000	6 ^f . per cent.	National Bank	50	£ s. d.		
10000	7 ^f . per cent.	Bank of Egypt	40	40 0	92		25000	20 ^f . per cent.	New South Wales	20	20 0	42	
6000	5 ^f . per cent.	Bank of London	25	25 0	23 ¹		54000	12 ^f . per cent.	Oriental Bank Corporation	25	25 0	32	
20000	6 ^f . per cent.	British North American	100	50 0	47		25000	..	Ottoman Bank	20	20 0	18	
32200	5 ^f . per cent.	Char. of India, Australasia, and China	50	50 0	59		30000	14 ^f . per cent.	Provincial of Ireland	100	25 0	65	
4500	5 ^f . per cent.	City Bank	20	10 0	42 ¹		4000	14 ^f . per cent.	Ditto New	10	10 0	..	
20000	6 ^f . per cent.	Colonial	100	50 0	..		12000	5 ^f . per cent.	Ionian Bank	25	25 0	..	
25000	6 ^f . per cent.	Commercial of London	100	25 0	31		12000	12 ^f . per cent.	South Australia	25	25 0	..	
25000	6 ^f . per cent.	Eng. Scot. and Amt. Chartered	20	20 0	17		4000	..	Ditto New	25	12 10	34	
35000	6 ^f . per cent.	London Chartered Bank of Australia	20	20 0	21 ²		32000	19 ^f . per cent.	Union of Australia	25	25 0	57	
20000	12 ^f . per cent.	London and County	50	20 0	28 ¹		3000	20 ^f . per cent.	Ditto New	10 0	0 0	
30000	22 ^f . per cent.	London Joint Stock	50	10 0	32 ¹		100000	..	Union of Hamburg	15	3 0	0	
50000	14 ^f . per cent.	London and Westminster	100	20 0	47		60000	15 ^f . per cent.	Union of London	50	10 0	0 0	
10000	16 ^f . per cent.	National Provincial of England	100	35 0	0 0		3000	3 ^f . per cent.	Unity Mutual Bank	100	50 0	0 0	
25000	16 ^f . per cent.	Ditto New	20	10 0	..		4000	3 ^f . per cent.	Western of London	100	3 0	74	

MONEY MARKET AND STOCK EXCHANGE.

CITY, FRIDAY EVENING.

THE returns of the Bank of France, which we announced last week to be very satisfactory, have this week led to the reduction of its minimum rate of discount from 3½ to 3 per cent. The alteration was expected, and has had no conspicuous effect on the value of securities, though it has increased conjectures as to the period when the Bank of England will further reduce its rate of discount. The gold continues to increase in this establishment as well as in the Bank of France, and the general abundance of the metal in the reserves of all the banking establishments of Europe assures us that here and elsewhere the owners of money will lower their terms for loans. Till the dividends are paid, probably the Bank of England will make no alteration, but that payment which will place some six millions in the hands of the public will tend to make money cheaper and bring about a further reduction in the rate. The only chance of arresting the fall is a great demand for the purposes of trade, of which we see no signs. Trade is everywhere healthy, is steadily progressive, and not likely to expand suddenly. Nor is there a ripple more speculation crossing the quiet ocean of trade than there was last week. We see no signs yet of the inflation with which a contemporary has threatened us, and a considerable time must elapse before even a preternatural cheapness of money can restore the confidence and the hopes which are essential to a great increase of credit.

The delay in giving the public official information of the exact terms of the treaty with China naturally excites some discontent. In Russia and France the Governments have not allowed their subjects to be dependent merely on newspaper reports; but our people, who have a far deeper interest on the terms of the treaty than either the Russians or French, are not informed of them. A poor and short summary of some of the principal conditions is all that has yet reached the English public. We believe that they anticipate too much from the treaty; we know that its presumed effects on opening China to our trade are much exaggerated; but erroneous notions in the people can be no justification of the Ministry for withholding from the public the official document. When it comes it will not immediately increase our exports to China, for experience has clearly taught our merchants that something more than treaties—their own exertions and sagacity—are necessary to extend trade. The treaty is one of the circumstances which will probably contribute to increase our prosperity, but only in a trifling degree.

We must not forget that part of the present quietness of the market is due to the absence from London of many of the principal merchants, stock-brokers, and speculators. There is nothing to tempt them to come to town, and they are prolonging their customary holidays. In the mean time, however, the great work of production is actively going on throughout the country, and the not less important business of consumption, for which alone production takes place, is in no degree suspended. On the contrary, it is as active as ever, and is daily becoming more active. We may look, therefore, for somewhat more activity in the City when the holidays have come finally to an end.

Consols, after remaining 97½ to ½ all day, after business hours left off 97½; and railways were all better at the close about ½ to ½ per cent. French prices are a shade flatter.

There is a good feeling in the market for Dover and Midland Stocks, of which both are dealt in at top prices.

DEPRESSION IN TRADE.—The Board of Trade returns for the past month were issued on Thursday, and again show a considerable falling off as compared with the corresponding period of last year, although not to an extent equal to most of the previous instances, the general depression in other articles having been greatly counteracted by active shipments of cotton goods to the East Indies and the Mediterranean. The reduction, therefore, is only 504,042L Among the items which show the greatest diminution, hardware and haberdashery are again prominent, these productions being influenced chiefly by the state of the American and colonial trade.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, the 22nd day of September, 1858.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued.....	£32,881,305
Government debt..	11,015,100
Other securities ..	3,459,900
Gold coin and bullion ..	18,406,305
Silver bullion ..	—
	£32,881,305

BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' capital 14,553,000	£.
Bank ..	3,698,280
Public deposits (including Exchequer, Commissioners of National Debt, Savings' Banks, and Dividend Accounts) ..	8,740,684
Other deposits ..	12,049,489
Seven Day & other Bills ..	730,409
	£39,800,962

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Dated the 23rd day of September, 1858.

THE SPEZZIA-CAGLIARI TELEGRAPH.—The *Triest Zeitung* learns from Turin that there is a lawsuit pending between the Spezzia-Cagliari Telegraph Company and Mr. Brett. The company demands from the engineer 1,600,000L as an indemnification for the loss it sustained by the two unsuccessful attempts to lay the cable, and Mr. Brett claims from the company a further payment of 400,000L. The process is likely to be a lengthy one.

DANUBE STEAM SERVICE.—According to letters from Lyons, the French company of the Rhône hopes it will be able next spring to open a service of steamers on the Danube. It is thought that, before that period, all the difficulties raised by the hostile feeling of Austria will be completely removed. Agents of the company are at this moment engaged in establishing at Pesth and Pressburg the stations required for the undertaking.

TRADE IN FRANCE.—There was no improvement in the trade of Paris or the departments during the last week. Considerable distress prevails among the tradesmen of Paris, a fact proved by the number of sales by execution which take place every day. Sales by auction have become so numerous that the public sale-room is being for the second time enlarged. Accounts from the departments speak of dull markets, and the last weekly return of the receipts of the railway companies show a falling off in the majority of them.

DOCK EXTENSION AT LIVERPOOL.—It is again announced that the dock accommodation of Liverpool is inadequate to her rapidly increasing shipping trade. Mr. Rankin, Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Mersey Dock Board, has laid before his colleagues a statement, at considerable length, of the additional dock and street space, which he considers to be imperatively demanded. This comprises the construction at the north of the present dock-range of a half-tide basin, with slips, quays, and locks, in connexion with the inland navigation, a timber dock of 20 acres, and two new streets, 60 feet in width. The estimated cost of this portion of the scheme to be 165,000L At the south of the dock range Mr. Rankin proposes to improve the Harrington and Herculaneum Dock sections at the cost of 187,000L and 500,000L respectively. Mr. Rankin shows clearly enough that the resources of the estate warrant the trustees in an application to Parliament for power to raise 600,000L for these purposes, besides some 250,000L for extra warehouses and sheds. A fresh issue of Liverpool bonds may therefore be looked for in the course of the spring.

PERSECUTION OF JEWS IN PERSIA.—It was announced some months ago that all the Jewish inhabitants of Herat had been deported to Meshed, on the plea that they had assisted the Heratites in their opposition to Persia, and that they were in the pay of the English. The *Bombay Gazette* publishes a letter from Teheran, dated the 13th April, 1858. This letter reports the Jews to be in a most grievous plight. All their young women have been violated, they are allowed no food, and numbers perish daily from exhaustion. Colonel Taylor, during his stay at Meshed, gave the Jews provisions, and remonstrated with the local authorities. Directly after his departure, however, the Jews were treated with as great rigour as formerly.

A LIBERAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—Mr. E. Lavington, who was drowned at Clevedon, had partially filled up a proposal the day before with the Railway Passengers' Assurance Company to insure against all accidents. Had he completed it he would have secured 1,000L to his family under the circumstances by which he met his death; but no premium having been paid there was no legal claim upon the company. The shareholders, however, voted one hundred guineas to the widow, as a mark of sympathy. Such an instance of good feeling as the above is calculated to raise the company high in public estimation.

BOOKS RECEIVED THIS WEEK.

GUNNERY IN 1858: being a Treatise on Rifles, Cannon, and Sporting Arms. By W. Greener, C.E. 8vo. Smith and Elder.

HOW WE ARE GOVERNED. By A. Foublanche, Junr., Esq. 8vo. Routledge.

THE COURTSHIP OF MILES STANDISH. By H. W. Longfellow. paper covers. 8vo. Kent and Co.

ONE HUNDRED SERMONS FROM THE AMERICAN NATIONS PREACHER. post 8vo. J. Jepps.

A NEW DICTIONARY OF QUOTATIONS FROM THE GREEK, LATIN AND MODERN LANGUAGES. 16mo. J. F. Shaw.

REMOVED NEW TELEGRAPH COMPANY.—The *Correspondencia Autógrafa* declares that there is no truth in a statement that had been made that an Anglo-Spanish Company has obtained the concession of a submarine telegraph from Cuba to the continent of America.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 3, Tichborne-street, opposite the Haymarket, OPEN DAILY (for Gentlemen only). LECTURES by Dr. SEXTON at 4 and 8 o'clock on Important and Interesting Topics in connection with ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY, and PATHOLOGY (vide Programme). Admission, 1s. Dr. Kahn's Nine Lectures on the Philosophy of Marriage, &c., sent post free, direct from the Author, on the receipt of 12 stamps.

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50, Albemarle-street, London,
Sept. 15, 1858.

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No. LVI., price 6s., will be published OCTOBER 1.

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Publishing Office, 294, Strand, W.C.

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